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On April 16, 1909, at Chengtu, to Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Williams, a daughter (Eileen Cameron).

On May 25, 1909, at Shanghai, the wife of PETER THOMAS, of a daughter.

On May 30, 1909, at Nizhny, LOUIS RAUL, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert of Andover, France, to MARGARET, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Donnelly, Ningpo.

On May 30, 1909, at Shanghai, Major ARTHUR A. S. BARNES, Wilshire Regiment, Commandant Shanghai Volunteer Corps, to JEANNE PRENTICE, widow of W. A. Duncan-Cooper, M.D., and daughter of Mrs. John Prentice.

On April 14, 1909, at Montreal, Canada, MARY E. FRANKLIN, wife of David J. Evans, M.D., aged 37. (Dr. Evans is the eldest son of Edward Evans of Shanghai).

The Hongkong Telegraph

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.
ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 1909.

WAR AGAINST THE MOSQUITO.

(29th May.)

In the French concession at Shanghai a vigorous campaign against mosquitoes is being prosecuted, though with what success it is difficult to estimate. It was stated at a meeting held the other day that operations have for some time been actively in progress under the control of a public-spirited international committee, and although it is, of course, not possible as yet to gauge the results of the work, the committee were able to give some interesting details of what has been accomplished. What will interest residents in Hongkong is the series of recommendations which were submitted by the Chairman, Captain Collyer, in the course of his report as to the methods adopted for the eradication of these mischievous insects. The chairman remarked that if the members present had not been able to see how the work has been carried out, it must be at any rate have been able to trace it by smell, for they had heard it said on all sides that for the past few weeks the concession had simply reeked with petroleum. It is too early to speak of the effect of the work, he added, but from numerous remarks we have heard we think we have every reason to be sanguine about it. We do not expect to exterminate mosquitoes, but we do hope to be able to reduce their numbers sufficiently to add considerably to the comfort of residents in the concession. The committee has held weekly meetings ever since it was formed, and you may rely upon us to do everything in our power to attain the object in view. "There is one point, however, that we cannot emphasize too strongly. If the anti-mosquito campaign is to be a success we must have the whole-hearted co-operation of all foreign residents in the French Concession. The committee will always welcome criticism, and lend a willing ear to any reasonable complaints, but on your part you must be willing to render every assistance in your power by rigidly carrying out practice the rules for individual observance that we have circulated. There are copies on the table for any who have not yet received one. If you wish your houses to be as free from mosquitoes as possible you must keep them free from possible breeding places. You must see that no water is allowed to stand for long in your bathroom; either in jugs or bath-trays; in flower vases or under flowerpots; that your yards and drains are kept scrupulously clean, and that the rain gutters, drain traps and plumbing about your premises are in perfect order. These are matters which it is beyond our power to control, and yet they are as important as the larger work carried on by the brigades. We duly appreciate, and are grateful for the assistance we have already received from the French Municipality. For this season at any rate, it may be desirable that the work should be carried on by your committee. But we think you will all agree with us when we say that, if any measure of success is attained this summer, we must look to the Council to carry on the work in years to come. The important advice to remember is the necessity of keeping the vicinity of buildings clear of stagnant water so that there may be no breeding places for the noxious anopheles. Of course it is not given to the average person to recognise the malaria-carrying insects from the innocuous, so that the best thing to do in the circumstances is to declare war against the whole tribe. With regard to the Shanghai campaign it is interesting to note that the scheme, like all reforms, is not without opponents. Some difficulty, it appears, has been found in obtaining subscriptions. One gentleman, when asked to subscribe, wrote:—"I adore mosquitoes and wish to preserve them." and another, a prominent member of the International Municipal Council, wrote against his name on the subscription list:—"I prefer the mosquitoes to the kerosene smell." These are the exceptions, however, and there is little doubt that the anti-mosquito campaign has arrived at Shanghai to stay.

JAPAN'S ASPIRATIONS IN CHINA.

(31st May.)

A remarkable article from the pen of Mr. Adachi Kinosuke, the editor of *The Far East*, appears in a recent number of *The World's Work*. For its very outspokenness the article is noteworthy because it affords some indication of the aims and aspirations of Japan and submits a plea in justification of her attitude vis-à-vis China. The writer holds that China must be treated by Japan as the future home of the latter's surplus population. "At the close of the Russo-Japanese war," says the writer, Baron Komura went from Portsmouth almost directly to Peking. He tried to make clear to our Chinese friends the following facts: The total area of Japan is less than 160,000 square miles, including Formosa, of which about 16 per cent. is arable. Upon this we are maintaining, or trying to maintain, 55,000,000 people. The area of Manchuria is 305,610 square miles, over 50 per cent. of which is arable, and Manchuria maintains not much more than 25,000,000 people. In other words, we are trying to support about four times the population of Manchuria on about one-seventh the arable area of Manchuria. Therefore, what we asked of China

was to allow some of our people to go over to Manchuria, develop her resources, raise foodstuffs for themselves as well as for some of the starving people at home. This didn't commend itself to our Chinese friends. "If we were to let you colonize Manchuria, there would be no more Manchuria," but a Manchurian Province of Japan," they said to us—with, let us admit, a great deal of practical sense. To which this simple answer—somewhat blunt, with the bluntness of elemental truth: In the days when we used to support a family of five on five dollars a month—and with comfort, let us add—we could support 40,000,000 on our islands. But to-day we find it impossible to maintain 55,000,000 people on about 25,000 square miles of arable area. If you do not allow our people to colonize Manchuria peacefully, there is only one thing for us to do: to enter it anyhow. Surely you see that we must choose between the two things: either die a saintly death in righteous starvation or expand into the neighbour's backyard. And we regret to say that Japan is not that much of a saint. Moreover, in spite of all this delicate situation, we wish to live at peace with our neighbours. We have to. Not only that, we cannot afford to have our Chinese friends fight amongst themselves. Why? For the simple and deadly reason that a civil war in China would wreck our greatest market. In other words, China is nothing more or less than a province of Japan. Proceeding to discuss Japan's policy at Peking the Editor of *The Far East* remarks: "Japan wishes to say to the Foreign Office at Peking: Now, gentlemen, listen! Do you intend to clean House peacefully? If so, we are with you. If, however, war be your programme—and it matters not whether it be a civil war or a second edition of the Boxer trouble—war means the destruction of our greatest market. That, gentlemen, is the one unforgivable sin in our political creed. British and American interests, too, will be affected as well as ours—perhaps you have heard of our understanding with the two English-speaking people? But—but if, in spite of it all, you wish to fight, why, fight, gentlemen, but always remember that you may have to meet the combined opposition of the three great Powers, America, Britain, and Japan. And we think that this combination is big enough to scare anyone—even China. A combination backed thus by the armed might of three Powers if only Japan succeed in bringing it about—will give her the honour of laying a cornerstone in the great temple of universal peace." In other words Japan is to make use of Great Britain and America in order to further her own designs on China. In dealing with the trade prospects from Japan's point of view the writer ridicules the view that Japan seeks to erect a wall against the importation of goods from other countries or that she can supply all the needs of the Chinese. He argues that a student of the Eastern market will say that in such matters as cotton sheetings the Chinese have had their demands filled. We could only fill their ever-increasing demands over and above the home supply. And so there is not a whit too much food, after all, for the trade-hunger of Britain, America, Germany, and Japan. True, but this also is true; the Chinese trade that is worth the name is not in supplying the Chinaman's need in those things which he had for ages past—it is in supplying the demands of his newly created and civilized appetite. For example, the classic China has never had matches. Her contact with the new civilization puts in her heart a longing for this article of convenience. We shall say that 400,000,000 Chinese will burn one box of matches each per month (pray observe the modesty of these figures); thus, in a year the Chinese would ask for 4,800,000,000 boxes of matches. Again, the Chinaman's leisurely philosophy saw for nearly five thousand years no need for a timepiece. Now he has a hunger for watches. "In Hankow," so a friend of mine who had come from there told me, "the chief attractions of the streets are the gilt watchchains and cut-out pig-tails." We shall say, then, that out of 400,000,000 Chinese there will be soon some 20,000,000 of men who will feel this hunger for a watch. And so, if we sold every watch we could cover only a fraction of a per cent. of these 20,000,000 watches the Chinese want, leaving plenty of room for American and Swiss factories. Continuing to point his argument the writer holds that the events since the Russo-Japanese war have made it clear that Japan intends to make, and in large measure has succeeded in making, herself thoroughly at home in Korea. Korea is under Japanese dominance in a very much greater measure and deeper sense than Manchuria has ever been and can very well be. Have we ousted American trade from Korea? he asks. In 1906, we began to carry out our programme more effectively in Korea; and in that very year America sold to Korea goods valued at \$1,278,755. In 1907, the Japanese influence in Korea became much stronger than in the previous year. Did the American trade decrease? Here is the figure: America sold to Korea, in that year, goods valued at \$1,647,780. He contends that the Asian market is big enough for three of us, America, Britain, and Japan; and that the very salvation of Japan depends on just such a triple understanding. And also this: "That there, on the Pacific, where the East meets the West, should be laid the foundation for the world's peace. No doubt it is a very excellent argument from Japan's point of view, especially as she is to benefit by the co-operation of Great Britain and America. But we fancy few British or American traders in the trend will see eye to eye with Mr. Kinosuke.

HONGKONG UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT FUND.

(1st June)

One of the principal conditions of the offer which Mr. H. N. Mody magnificently made to the Government in connection with his proposal to defray the building expenses of the projected University of Hongkong was that the sum necessary for ensuring an adequate endowment and equipment fund should be collected or at least promised by the end of the present month. His Excellency the Governor, in referring to this question at a meeting held in connection with the scheme, estimated that the amount required would be about a million and a quarter dollars, which is a very considerable sum in these days of depressed trade and financial fluctuations. Candidly we viewed the prospects of such a sum being raised by public subscription with anything but optimism, for the calls made on those of generous heart have been so heavy during the last three years—since the typhoon of 1906—that it was difficult to believe there could be so much liquid money in the Colony at the present time. When a Chinese sub-committee was appointed to canvass their compatriots we feared there was just a possibility that the necessary funds would be forthcoming, but still we could not profess to over-sanguine on the subject, however much we might feel in sympathy with the scheme. It was in the month of January that His Excellency the Governor declared Mr. Mody's intention to keep his offer open for a period of six months, and many weeks passed before there was any clear evidence that the Chinese, British and foreign communities in Hongkong were inclined to forward the proposal by dipping their hands into their pockets and subscribing towards the fund. Even when the first lists were published, it was not apparent that there was any general wish on the part of the Chinese to support a project which would ultimately prove of greatest advantage to them and their children. But the Chinese sub-committee was by no means inactive. The members, it is now evident, have been labouring with commendable zeal and persistence to secure the co-operation of their fellow-countrymen, so that the generous offer of Mr. Mody to be responsible for the erection of the structural part of the work might be accepted by the Government. What may be said to have given the main fillip to the endeavours of the canvassers was the magnificent donation promised by Messrs. Butterfield & Swire of a total sum of \$40,000, an amount which practically ensured in a single day the success of the endowment fund. Yesterday we reported that the Chinese subscriptions already reached the total of \$160,000, so that at the present moment it may be computed roughly that of the total sum of a million and a quarter required nearly half that amount is at the command of the Government—which is an augury of the best. Moreover, we learn that information is at hand that the Imperial Government at Peking has intimated its willingness to make an annual grant of \$50,000 towards the endowment fund, while the Viceroy at Canton is seeking power to be responsible for a similar yearly donation. The Chinese at Canton are expected to bring up the Chinese subscriptions to at least \$400,000, so that the security necessary for the endowment of the fund is already assured, and that before the donations of foreign firms have been notified. We confidently anticipate that the lead given by Messrs. Butterfield & Swire will be followed by most of the British and foreign companies doing business in the Colony. It is no exaggeration of speech to hold that the endowment and equipment fund which at first seemed to have fallen flat will be subscribed twice over. So much the better for the future of the University. When the Government estimated that \$1,250,000 would be essential if the University was to start with an adequate endowment fund we do not believe that there was any desire to throw cold water on the scheme by frightening intending subscribers at the magnitude of the original size of the fund. Rather the reverse, because the idea has from the very outset received the unstinted and enthusiastic support of the Governor himself. His Excellency has done everything possible to assist, promote and nourish the scheme and he will be the first to rejoice that one of his chief aims in connection with the welfare of the Colony is certain attainment. In our opinion, the endowment fund, large though it is, will be vastly augmented from other sources than those indicated, before the completed building is open to students. We have seen how the Viceroy of the two Kwang has been induced to lend his countenance to the founding of a University at Hongkong and has sought power to promise an annual grant towards its maintenance, and we have noted how favourably the project has been received in Peking. But we feel warranted in assuming that these are by no means the only annual subsidies which may be expected, although it is too early to say from what direction they may come. What we cannot help remarking is the fact that the Colony is to enjoy the privilege of being recognised as an important educational centre, the focus of learning for the youth of South China, and that without costing the ratepayers a single day's misgiving. Therein lies the whole crux of the question to our mind, for had it been suggested that the Colony should be saddled with a public institution which might in the end become an incubus on the rates we should have denounced with the utmost vigour such an insane proposal. And at the inception of the scheme that seemed to be exceedingly probable. Now, however, all danger on that

score has been removed and the Committee in charge of the initial arrangements may proceed with their self-imposed duties in the calm and confident assurance that their efforts to elevate the youth of the Colony will be tinged by no carping criticism on the part of insouciant residents whose means prevents them from giving their offspring all the advantages which accrue from a higher modern education than that furnished at Queen's College.

OPIMUM IN THE STRAITS.

For some time past there has been an agreeable lull in the opium trade controversy, although that has been due to no fault of those who have inveighed against the continuance of traffic in the drug. Rather it has been deemed desirable that the Home Government should have adequate time to digest the report of those who represented the Imperial Government at the Shanghai Commission in February last. To a certain extent the question was revived by Sir John Anderson, Governor of the Straits Settlements, in the course of a speech which he delivered at a dinner given in his honour by the Straits Settlements Association in London prior to his departure to resume his duties in Singapore. It was noteworthy that His Excellency was curiously silent regarding the precise effect which the elimination of the trade would have on the revenue of the Settlements, nor did he indicate whether the Imperial Government was inclined to grant compensation to the Southern Colonies as has been promised in the case of Hongkong. Sir John was mainly concerned with the Opium Farm system and he certainly spoke plainly on that subject. He began by remarking that his experience of the system of farms had certainly not been fortunate, for within a very few months of his assumption of the administration he was faced with a condition of things which meant that the farmers could not continue to pay the rent which they had promised to pay, and he was advised by those who knew far more about Chinese affairs than he did, that the farmers certainly could not continue to pay the rent. The only thing was to drive them into bankruptcy and re-let the farm or give them a reduction. He was also advised that if the Straits Government had to drive the farmers into bankruptcy and re-let the farm they should probably get a very much reduced rent for it, and in the result they had to accept a considerably lower rent than had been arranged originally. "Of course," he continued, "we had to re-let farms again in the beginning of 1907, and they had not been long let when I had again a communication from the farmers saying that they had agreed to pay far more than they ought to have done, and they asked for another reduction. This time I was not prepared to give them any reduction, and they have not got it up to now. Since I have been home I have heard that my *locum tenens* has found it advisable to allow them to defer, till the end of their term, payment of part of their rent, but I understand there is no question of allowing them any real abatement. They have been allowed to defer payment, and on that deferred payment they will have to pay interest, and for that deferred payment and the payment of the interest the Government has got ample security, which I have no doubt they will in due course realise if necessary. I hope it will not be necessary, but, as I say, my experience of farms has certainly not been fortunate." These constant troubles, constant applications for remission and reduction, had not inspired him with a belief that the farm system was certainly one which gave the Governor an easy time of it. "I do not know that that would lead me to favour a change, but at the same time it is a consideration, and there can be no doubt that there has been, and is, amongst the Chinese community considerable dissatisfaction, justified or not, with the methods pursued by the farmers' preventive service, and I know there have been cases—not by any means numerous, not so numerous, as many people would have us believe—of blackmailing and other iniquities by the so-called chin-chews. These things are inevitable, and if we could get rid of them I think we should all rejoice." There can be no question that in these remarks Sir John Anderson voiced the views of a large section of the native population both in Singapore and Hongkong. Whether it were possible to eradicate the evils complained of by the Chinese in being subjected to the unwelcome attentions of the Farm's minions is another matter. Certainly the Farmer must protect himself against smugglers, but it is matter of common knowledge that the zeal of the servants in the interest of the Farmer often outruns their discretion. Of late there have been fewer complaints than usual and it may be that the procedure which was formerly in vogue when a passenger was suspected of being in possession of illicit opium has been rendered less objectionable than was once the case. Undoubtedly that is so, where Chinese women have to be searched. But it is the system of informers which gives rise to abuses, and so long as informers have to be employed and rewarded so long is the door open to chicanery and deceit. Not that we have any remedy to suggest, but there the fact stands. If the Opium Farm was done away with and if it were taken over by the Government would there be any improvement in this respect? We scarcely imagine so. In this connection Sir John Anderson is reported to have said that there is no doubt that "if the Government has to take over the management of the farm, the management of the cooking and sale of chandu, it is extremely improbable that we can do it so profitably as the farmer does. For one thing we shall have

to pay for our service considerably more, and possibly our service may not be in some ways so efficient as that which the farmer provides. But, on the other hand, we have got to face the fact that the people of this country have made up their minds that opium is a very serious evil, and that it is the duty of the Government to abate in so far as is practicable that evil. I do not think anybody would contend that opium-smoking is *per se* a good thing. The most anyone can say is, 'Well, it does not do much harm.' I think that is about the most you can say about it. You can say the same of things which exist in this country, and of course, as my friend and predecessor has put it, it is sometimes a case of 'our morals and other people's money,' and it is perhaps a temptation to those here in authority, if they find themselves unable to deal with what might be called more pressing evils at Home to try and deal with our trouble out there." In that sentence it is probable that the Governor of the Straits Settlements struck the nail on the head. He added—"I can assure you, however, that His Majesty's Government have no intention of driving us to extremes but they do look to us, to the administration of the Colony, to pursue a steady policy of striving to reduce the consumption of opium. I do not think that to that policy anybody can reasonably take exception. The question is entirely one of detail and one of administration, and I have no doubt that for some time it will be one of very great difficulty and anxiety." Not only that, but His Excellency might have observed that the outcome of the Imperial Government's action was likely to inflict injustice on a large number of Chinese and still further deplete the almost exhausted exchequer of the Crown Colonies in this part of the world. Sir John Anderson was straight from a conference with the Secretary of State for the Colonies at which this question most assuredly was discussed, but as will be seen little light was thrown on the prospective action of the Government. We can only hope for the best and await developments.

CHINESE ENTERPRISE IN HANKOW.

(2nd June.)

Much curiosity was aroused over the statement made by Sir Thomas Sutherland, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the P. & O. Steamship Company, at the annual meeting of shareholders, that it was proposed to inaugurate a new feature in the trade between China and Europe by importing Chinese pigs. Not a few people were inclined to believe that the veteran of the P. & O. Company was, to use a colloquialism, "pulling the leg" of the shareholders, although the appositeness of such an operation was difficult to understand. It was difficult to appreciate humour of that sort, if humour were intended and consequently the majority of people were content to await events. That there was real significance in the remark made by Sir Thomas Sutherland is now made evident by the announcement that a Hankow firm, designated the International Export Company, has chartered the P. & O. steamer *Palermo* to carry 2,000 tons of frozen pork to London, where it will be disposed of presumably at the Smithfield market. The *Palermo* is equipped with the necessary refrigerators and we understand that the vessel is now at Hankow awaiting her cargo. There will be no delay in the shipment, for the International Export Company, which has undertaken this novel enterprise, is busily engaged in slaughtering and freezing the required number of pigs. Its refrigerating plant is a large modern establishment, built on the pattern of the best American meat packing houses. According to the *North China Daily News* some mystery attaches to the character of the new venture. Foreigners in Hankow have repeatedly been refused admittance to this meat-packing establishment, which has been erected almost within Settlement limits, and the public does not even know who are the promoters of the enterprise; that they are a Chinese group of capitalists is all that can be ascertained. The scheme, however, is looked upon as the opening wedge of a giant industry, for between the prices of pork in China and in London there is a big difference. "Even allowing for a high rate of freight there remains a satisfactory margin on the shipper's side. The speculative features are found in the quality of the meat, the natural antipathy to pork produced in a country where insanitation is so noticeable, and the possibility of an embargo being placed against it by the home health authorities. It is also considered probable that a trial consignment of game will be made at the same time, for the prices of wild game birds in China are comparatively very low, and it is reported that the Hankow packing establishment has been purchasing game and poultry during the past few weeks. In seeking the margin of profit we may estimate that the price of pork at Hankow is under 20 cents per pound, or approximately 2d. In London it is about 5d. With regard to the profit which it is estimated might be realised on game, poultry and eggs, a writer in our Northern contemporary points out that whereas in Hankow the price of pheasants is 50 cents, in London it is five shillings a brace; other comparisons show that while quail in China costs 4 cents, in London the price is 8d; snipe 6 cents as compared with 6d; ducks 35 cents as against 1s 3d; geese 5s as against four shillings, and eggs eight cents as compared with one shilling per dozen in London. Many proposals have been made to supply the demands of Europe for poultry, game and pork from the markets of China, and many people will watch the new scheme with interest. It is in good hands apparently and it will be given a fair trial. The enter-

British Mine Adrift.

"STANLEY'S" SUCCESSFUL SEARCH.

ORIGIN OF THE DEADLY MACHINE A MYSTERY.

1st inst.

Right in the track of vessels making for and out of Hongkong harbour a floating mine has been adrift for a week since it was first sighted and reported to the Harbour Master by the master of one of the river steamers trading to Macao. The report first appeared in the columns of the *Hongkong Telegraph* and was to the effect that while on the run to Hongkong on the 22nd ult. the master of the steamer in question sighted a floating mine just between Dumbell Island and Green Island, about a mile and a half from the shore. It was impossible for him to take any steps to remove the danger to navigation, but it was hoped that such a menace to shipping generally would be removed as soon as possible.

Immediately upon receipt of the report the Harbour Master caused a search of the waters around and near Dumbell Island to be immediately instituted. To this end the Government tender *Stanley* was despatched on the 23rd ult. to scour the waters near the vicinity where the danger was reported to exist by the captain of the Macao steamer. Kai-chow Island was first visited and a close scrutiny of the waters made, but the *Stanley* steamed down as far as the floating mine was sighted, but was then questioned as to whether it had observed any floating mine or buoy adrift in the course of their day's cruise. The masters of the entire fleet had seen nothing which corresponded to the appearance of a mine or buoy. On the return journey the *Stanley* stopped and spoke the *Sui Tai*, another Macao steamer, whose master could not confirm the report of the existence of any floating danger to navigation along his route that day.

SECOND SEARCH SUCCESSFUL.

Yesterday being a public holiday and the Colonial Government tender *Stanley* being unavailable for duty, the Harbour Master again detailed Capt. Willoughby to make a thorough search of the waters between Hongkong and Cheung-chau. Casting off her moorings at 9 a.m. the *Stanley* soon made tracks down to her destination. When between five and six miles outside Green Island the master on the bridge described a black object floating on the surface of the sea away to the S.W. Believing he had thus early discovered the object of his quest, Capt. Willoughby turned the nose of his little craft to the floating object and steamed down to ascertain what it was. When the *Stanley* drew close to it, it was found to be an old mine. Its shape was conical, its base being flat, and its length was about 10 feet. The mine was worked round till she got to Cheung-chau. Finding nothing there a search began in real earnest and a zig-zag course was determined upon so that the entire stretch of water might be covered before daylight. In the course of this search it was estimated that the *Stanley* must have covered between fifty and sixty miles and if it were traced on the chart a sketch of its spider web would have been left on the mariner's guide. Ultimately reward crowned the efforts of the persevering skipper and the mine was located just about midway between Cheung-chau and Green Island in the very track of ocean vessels making for the harbour of Victoria.

Strange to relate, that same "ground" was traversed no less than three times in the tedious cruise. When it was passed in the morning there was heavy weather with a heavy sea running which accounted for the watch not being able to see the mine. In the afternoon when the fortunate discovery was made at 3 o'clock the weather was fine and the sea had become smooth.

As soon as the mine was located, a boat from the *Stanley* was lowered and the boat with a native crew were sent in charge. The boat took with him one end of the line and as the little gig pulled away, some eighty fathoms were paid out. The boat pulled round the mine which was dragged beneath the surface of the water. The *Stanley* then went full speed ahead with her tow astern in order to be sure if the object was a mine and, as it bobbed up and down in the water, it was ascertained to be one beyond a doubt. There being no explosion it was thought safe to single up the line and haul the mine to the surface. This was done, and the *Stanley* started on her way back to Hongkong with her tow. The steam-tender arrived in port at 4 p.m. and the mine was taken across to the Harbour Office wharf. It was lifted bodily on to the wharf this morning. The mine has some seven fathoms of mine attached to it and while it did not explode it prevented the mine getting into deep water.

When seen by a member of our staff this morning the mine was found to be a "British" mine, the Harbour Master, kindly informed our representative that the mine was of the 72-lb British pattern and was perfectly harmless as it had no means of ignition. The Naval Authorities were endeavouring to ascertain its origin. No one could state for certain how it came to be where it was.

Asked if the mine could have been one used in the Russo-Japanese war in the field of operations, the Harbour Master smiled and repeated the assertion that it was one of British pattern. It might be presumed that it was used in mining operations many years ago and by some means, which remain to be explained, had got adrift.

The shell of the mine as seen to-day is corroded and covered with barnacles which appear to have been quite recently clipped off.

CHINA BORNEO CO., LD.

THE SLIPWAY IN SANDAKAN.

The following references to the China-Borneo Co., Ltd., in which Hongkong shareholders are largely interested, appear in the annual report on Sandakan for 1908:

The China Borneo Co. built a steam launch for the Moro Government, a house boat for the Kinabatangan district, a large timber lighter for their own use, and a lighter for the New London Borneo Tobacco Co. They repaired 60 lighters, launches, and steamers, at their works, of which number 26 were cradled by the slipway.

Trade in Sandakan improved during the year, more shops being opened, and population larger both in town and outside, more coolies being employed in the District. Towards the end of the year exchange with Hongkong became more favourable and as a consequence the China boats arrived with large consignments of goods for repairs and coal, and a few outside vessels also came in for bunkering. The China Borneo Co. completed the erection of their new sawmill, but say that their slipway and engineering plant could have dealt with a much larger business. The North Borneo Trading Co. informed me that their engineering works were fully occupied with their own upkeep, and development work, but as regards timber they say that general conditions were not favourable, but export of log timber was maintained in preference to reducing strength of working gangs.

The "Nanshan" Tragedy.

TWO EUROPEAN OFFICERS AND THREE FILIPINO SAILORS SUFFOCATED.

29th ult.

Just as we are going to press news has been received to the effect that a distressing accident occurred on board the steamer *Nanshan* while on the voyage from Cavite to Hongkong. According to the information which has come to hand, it would appear that the *Nanshan*, which arrived at Hongkong this forenoon, under the command of Captain Carter, with a cargo of coal consigned to the Admiralty, left the Philippines on Wednesday. In the course of the voyage it was found necessary to open the hatch and the chief officer and second officer went into the hold to make an investigation of the cargo. They were accompanied by three Filipinos. What actually occurred we are not in a position at the moment to state, but it is ascertained that some fumes were pervading the hold with the result that the entire party of five persons were overpowered and asphyxiated.

The Government Civil Hospital was communicated with but nothing was known of the affair there. From Mr. M. S. Towner the news was gathered that there was reason to believe the facts were as stated, but beyond that no enlightenment as to the cause which would account for this melancholy accident could be obtained. Other sources were approached but beyond the bare statement that two European officers and three Filipino seamen had been suffocated nothing shed light on the matter was ascertained.

The *Nanshan* formerly belonged to Messrs. Bradley and Co. but was sold to the American Government for service as a collier. She has a tonnage of 1,571, and is lying off Blackhead's Point.

EVENTFUL VOYAGE AT SEA.

STORY OF THE DREADFUL CALAMITY.

At a late hour on Saturday afternoon the news of the terrible calamity which occurred on board the U. S. collier *Nanshan* while on the high seas, in which five men (two American officers and three of the Filipino crew) lost their lives, reached us; but at the time definite particulars, as we stated in our last issue, could not be procured in time to serve to our readers. Since then, however, *Telegraph* representatives have been made acquainted with the narrative, which is stated in this Colony. The adventure of the *Nanshan*, as will be seen, was one of the most sensational that a vessel sailing in these waters has ever encountered. That the tragedy threw a pall over the ship's crew, who held the deceased men in high esteem, can only be left to the imagination.

The *Nanshan*, a vessel of 1,571 tons, commanded by Captain Carter, left Cavite harbour on Wednesday last for this port. She carried a large cargo of coal, paint and naphtha. Less than thirty-six hours after the collier had left her last port she met with extremely bad weather, which did some damage to the craft. He started the first item in what was to be his adventurous programme. The *Nanshan* was buffeted about mercilessly by the elements, which seemed to have gone mad. As a matter of fact, she was pitched about like a lost cork. She shipped, as she rolled and tossed about, heavy seas, which were running mountains high, and this tended to send her cargo adrift. Another young seaman carried in her bulkheads.

It was soon discovered that the paint locker was awash, and that a number of tins by coming into collision with the sides of the ship, had been smashed. But as it was known that the little time a certain gas had generated, the weather came, hours later, abated a trifle, no longer able to speak of, and steps were taken to rearrange things in the paint locker—the death hole. One thing which had also to be done was to bail the water from the locker, and this was being done by the crew. What happened while this was being done is rather vague, naturally through the excitement. It could not be stated definitely which of the officers entered the locker first, or whether the latter accompanied the Filipinos when the death hole was entered. It is known, however, that Captain Carter proceeded below to investigate, and was suddenly overpowered by the deadly fumes. He was last heard shouting, "Where are you kapp?"

The next person to enter the locker was the boatswain, whose name is given as Tomas Cruz. He also was attacked by the fumes, but he succeeded in crawling up the ladder to the deck, and there he told of his recovery, of the awful sight he witnessed below. This he told to Mr. Sanderson, the third officer, who was on watch on the bridge.

The boatswain presented a most distressing picture after struggling to the deck. He was covered all over with a black mixture, believed to be coal tar, and from the way he was catching for his breath showed that the narrow escape he had had. He stated that the captain, the chief officer (Mr. Larkin), and the boatswain (the second) had three Filipinos were dead below. In a moment everything was being done to rescue the unfortunate men, and it is through the prompt action taken by those on board that the skipper's life was saved.

At about 8.45 p.m. several seconds after the starting report was made by the boatswain, a lamp was lowered into the death trap, and there, lying in the water, were the bodies of six men—all of one colour, black, and beyond recognition. This set every one on the move. A wind funnel was erected to clear the fumes away, but still it was a dangerous matter for another person to proceed into the locker to reach the bodies.

"Two hours later a volunteer came forward and signified his intention of going below to get the bodies. This man was Tomas Cruz. He was lowered into the hold with a bow-line. The brave man was provided with another rope, with which to get the bodies up. He succeeded in getting to the deck a Filipino, who, although brought up alive, succumbed shortly afterwards. The boatswain himself was feeling a bit "seedy" from the effects, but after a rest he went to work again. The volunteer was lowered into the hold several times, until finally the last body was removed. Artificial respiration was resorted to, but it only had effect on Captain Carter. The rest were too far gone.

The dead are:—

Mr. W. Larkin, chief officer, of Boston.

Mr. H. C. Rapp, second officer, of Philadelphia, and—

Three Filipinos, whose names we could not obtain.

Captain Carter is being treated on board the *Nanshan*, by the doctor of the U.S.S. *Helena*. He is doing well.

It might here be stated that while the rescue work was being done, the *Nanshan* was "holed" by the completion of Mr. Sanderson, the third officer, took charge of the vessel and brought her safely to Hongkong, arriving here on Saturday forenoon. It was a very impressive ceremony that took place at Happy Valley yesterday morning, when the funeral of the five men took place. The officers were interred at the Colonial Cemetery, while the Filipinos were laid to rest in the Roman Catholic burial ground. A detachment from the U.S.S. *Helena* under Capt. W. W. Buchanan and Lieut. W. Friedland, also Mr. C. F. Egan, Chief Engineer, Mr. A. E. Dwyer, Second Assistant Engineer, Mr. W. Hutchings, and the crew from the U.S.S. *Nanshan* were present.

Legislative Council

THE VACANT SEAT.

MR. MURRAY STEWART'S CANDIDATURE.

Considerable satisfaction will be felt at the announcement we are able to make to-day that Mr. Murray Stewart has consented to submit his name as a candidate for election to the Legislative Council as the representative of the Justices of the Peace in the Colony during the absence of Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. Mr. Pollock will be away on home leave until October, 1910.

Mr. Stewart will be proposed by the Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson. The second of the nomination will be the Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewitt, for whom Mr. Stewart acted so efficiently during that gentleman's absence from the Colony last year.

OPIMUM SMUGGLER CAPTURED.

DRUG SEIZED ON BOARD THE "ZAFIRO."

1st inst.

A clever capture of opium, found in the possession of the quarter-master of the Manila steamer *Zafiro*, was made yesterday by Sergeant Wilson. It was suspected for some time, that the quarter-master, Manuwig Simpicio, had been in the habit of smuggling opium into Manila. Information was received by the police yesterday to this effect, and before the *Zafiro* had dropped her anchor in the harbour, Sergeant Wilson was on board. In the quarter-master's trunk he found a cholera belt, in which was hidden four tins of the drug. Had the police officer been a little late the quarter-master would have adjusted the belt and come ashore. The opium seized (twenty tins) is believed to have been taken to Manila by the quarter-master on the last trip, but he had evidently failed to get it ashore at the latter port.

Manuwig Simpicio, a man about sixty-eight years of age, was arrested, and this forenoon he was arraigned before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Magistrate's, to answer a charge of being in possession of illicit opium. The defendant stated that the opium was left in his cabin by somebody, but Sergeant Wilson showed that defendant knew that the stuff was there, because when his cabin was entered the quarter-master said, "No got opium," and, picking up the cholera belt, proceeded to leave the cabin. The belt was taken away from him and the discovery was made.

The sergeant, giving evidence, spoke to going on board the ship and meeting the defendant, who volunteered the statement that he had no opium. He then picked up the bundle and walked to the deck. Witness stopped him, had the bundle opened, and found the tins of poppy juice.

The defendant said that the opium was found in his possession, but he did not know the laws of the Colony.

The Court—He has probably been doing this habitually.

Sergeant—Yes.

Defendant was ordered to pay a fine of \$500, or to go to gaol for three months.

SHANGHAI ELECTRIC AND ASBESTOS CO.

The annual meeting of the Shanghai Electric and Asbestos Co., Ltd., took place at Shanghai on 25th ult. Mr. W. D. Little presided and the others present were Messrs J. Frost, A. H. H. W. C. Murray, Directors; R. W. MacCabe, Secretary; O. L. Albert, Thomas West, E. W. Clement, and Mr. Brownell.

The Chairman said: "I am glad to see you here. We recommended a dividend of 8 per cent, the same as last year. I regret, however, that you have had to wait for this instead of receiving a portion by way of interim dividend after the usual half-yearly balance, as heretofore, but at that time we had a heavy overdraft with our Bankers. You will see from the account that at the end of the year we had 'worked' to a credit; however, at the moment we are again overdrawn. The fact is with a growing business we want a little more working capital."

The company was started in 1903 with a capital of \$100,000; on the 14th July, 1904, an extraordinary general meeting passed resolutions to the effect that the capital be increased to \$200,000 by the creation of 4,000 new shares, but that only 1,000 of such shares be then issued, the remaining 3,000 to be issued and disposed of by the board from time to time and upon such conditions as the Board in their discretion shall deem advisable. Our paid-up capital is now \$125,000; we propose to issue as soon as the time is propitious a further 1,000 shares bringing the capital issued up to \$150,000. The necessity of carrying considerable stock absorbs our funds. I referred to this position last year and trusted that we should be able to reduce the amount so locked up, but unfortunately that does not seem possible. For our stock, you will observe is valued at a sum just justified in excess of our capital. We recommended, placing \$5,000 to reserve, bringing that account up to \$15,000, and that certain amounts be written off various accounts as detailed in the Report.

During the six years of the Company's existence to February 28, 1909, we have paid away in dividends \$54,549.50 Bonus to Staff 7,000.00 Created a Reserve account of 15,000.00 A special Reserve for bad and doubtful debts 5,500.00 And written off various accounts 22,329.45

\$104,378.95

which shows I think a satisfactory working. We had a set back in 1906 owing to the defalcations of the Secretary at that time. For the year ending 31st March, 1907, we had to pass our dividend but wrote off the whole of the last Secretary's defalcations and the expenses connected therewith, amounting to \$7,757.46 and carried forward to the new account \$3,320.98. We are now in new premises in a most suitable location for our business and with, I hope, a good year before us.

There were no questions asked and the first resolution, proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. Murray, that the report and statement of accounts as printed be adopted, was put to the meeting and carried.

Mr. Clements moved that Mr. Murray be re-elected a Director of the Company and that the appointment of Mr. A. H. H. W. C. Murray be confirmed. Mr. Albert seconded.

In regard to this resolution Mr. Little explained that they asked authority to confirm the appointment of Mr. H. H. W. C. Murray had been invited by the Directors to take the seat on the board vacated by Mr. E. C. Pearce some six or seven months ago when he went home. He took this opportunity of thanking Mr. Pearce on their behalf for the work he had done for the Company.

The resolution was unanimously carried.

Mr. Brownell moved the appointment of Messrs. Lowe, Bingham and Matthews as auditors of the Company for the current year which was seconded by Mr. Albert and agreed to.

The meeting concluded by a vote of thanks to the Directors and staff for the good results of last year's working, which Mr. Brownell proposed.

CANTON FOREIGN SECRETARY.

SHIP.

APPOINTMENT OF MR. FUNG WA-CHUNG.

In Chinese circles it is reported that Mr. Fung Wa-chung, of Hongkong, has been appointed Deputy of Foreign Affairs to the Viceroy of Canton, in succession to Tso Tai Ng Kwong Kin, who has proceeded to Shanghai on leave. It will be recalled that when Tso Tai Wen Tsung-yao was at the Foreign Secretariat at Canton, Mr. Fung was a candidate for appointment to the Foreign Department in the Provincial Government.

SHIPBUILDING IN JAPAN.

TONNAGE AND AMOUNT OF SUBSIDY GRANTED.

The shipbuilding industry in Japan has received much encouragement from the Shipbuilding and Navigation Laws, which were framed and promulgated in March, 1896, says the *Toyokai*, and it has greatly developed under the protection of these laws. The tonnage of ships built in the country during the last twelve years will be seen from the following table:

	Under 1,000 tons.	1,000 to 5,000 tons.	Over 5,000 tons.	Total.
1897	727	—	—	727
1898	1,519	6,172	7,691	15,382
1899	3,411	6,309	9,720	19,440
1900	7,633	12,360	7,633	27,626
1901	14,477	8,644	12,360	35,481
1902	26,151	16,273	10,636	53,060
1903	30,211	4,284	7,463	42,958
1904	15,313	11,906	—	27,219
1905	3,709	13,970	—	17,679
1906	3,954	14,001	38,692	56,647
1907	—	—	—	—
1908 (10 Sept.)	796	1,811	—	2,607

Prior to the promulgation of the Shipbuilding and Navigation Encouragement Laws in 1896 the shipbuilding industry in Japan was in an undeveloped condition, but since the operation of these laws the building of large ships has progressed. Classifying 180,000 tons of ships built during the past twelve years in compliance with the provisions of the Encouragement Law according to builders, the Mitsui Bishi Yard heads the list with 114,500 tons, or 63 per cent. of the total, the Kawasaki Yard, the Osaka Iron Works, and the Ishikawajima Yard coming next in the order named. The amount of shipbuilding subsidies paid during these years is shown in the following table:

	Under 1,000 tons.	1,000 to 5,000 tons.	Over 5,000 tons.	Total.
1897	8,724	4,375	13,109	26,408
1898	187,700	96,175	213,875	497,750
1899	160,520	27,760	187,780	376,060
1900	121,300	31,630	152,930	305,860
1901	473,164	107,930	581,994	1,163,088
1902	333,128	8,120	411,148	752,400
1903	359,507	87,310	437,810	884,627
1904	159,776	43,010	202,786	405,572
1905	41,952	123,080	574,132	739,164
1906	404,108	99,190	494,428	997,726
1907	596,668	86,630	677,348	1,360,646
1908	216,132	46,680	262,812	525,624
(to Sept.)	—	—	—	—

As will be seen from the above, the Japanese Government has paid nearly ¥4,210,000 in subsidies on 180,000 tons of ships built in the country during the last twelve years, or at the rate of ¥23.30 per ton on an average. Distributing the amount of the subsidy paid to the respective recipients the following result is obtained:

	Mitsui Bishi.	Kawasaki.	Osaka.	Total.
1897	—	—	—	—
1898	174,785	39,090	—	213,875
1899	187,780	—	—	187,780
1900	56,070	96,860	—	152,930
1901	383,874	68,645	89,395	542,514
1902	337,190	74,158	—	411,348
1903	365,800	29,950	42,000	437,810
1904	80,920	37,715	38,151	156,786
1905	404,450	81,555	88,126	574,132
1906	260,820	149,205	84,403	494,428
1907	269,080	303,010	91,060	677,348
1908 (up to Sept.)	208,270	—	54,542	262,812

Y4,210,000 Y999,298 Y488,343 Y4,166,540

Besides the above ¥38,840 in 1907 and ¥14,172 in 1908 were paid to the Ishikawajima Shipbuilding Yard; making a total, as already stated, of ¥4,209,000. Of nearly ¥4,210,000 in subsidies granted for shipbuilding since the law came into force the Mitsui Bishi obtained 65 per cent. of the total, the Kawasaki 22 per cent., and the Osaka Iron Works 11 1/2 per cent.

In other words, the vessels constructed for the Japanese Government have been built by the Mitsui Bishi for the benefit of shipbuilding companies and individuals. By this household method a mercantile marine has been forced into existence, but the condition of the industry cannot be said to have justified the sacrifices made.—*Japan Chronicle*.

CHINESE WOMAN ROBBED.

QUICK CAPTURE BY MR. J. B. BOTELHO.

Before Mr. F. A. Hazeland (second police magistrate) in the Police Court, this forenoon, two coolies—Ko Ki and Cheung Kam—were charged jointly with snatching a gold earring with jade drop from an old woman named Chu U in Queen's Road Central, near the Clock Tower, yesterday afternoon.

The story of the robbery was told by Mr. J. B. Botelho, an assistant in the employ of Messrs. Barretto and Company. He said that about half-past three o'clock yesterday afternoon he was walking under the verandah near Wang Hing's jewellery store, in Queen's Road. He was going in a westerly direction, while the complainant, coming in his direction, was but a few yards away. Witness saw the first defendant approach complainant from behind and struck her on the shoulder. He then walked away. Witness seized the man and by this time complainant discovered that she was missing her earring.

The complainant gave evidence to the effect that while walking along Queen's Road yesterday she felt a tug at her ear. Mr. Botelho, she added, grabbed a man, in whom she recognised the first defendant, and asked her whether she had lost anything. Complainant replied that her earring was missing. Mr. Botelho then handed his prisoner over to a "black European" (laughter)—the old lady continued. The second defendant handed over to the police a few minutes later the missing earring.

Here Mr. Botelho withdrew the charge against the second defendant, and discharged him, but called upon him to give evidence. The witness said that he was employed by the Ko Shing Theatre Company.

The Court—How did this earring come into your hands? Did you pick it up?

Witness—No. It was handed to me by a European, who asked me to return it to the complainant. I gave it to the policeman.

The defendant said that he came to the Colony a few days ago to sell tea. He did not commit the robbery. As a matter of fact he was yards away from the scene when the thing occurred.

His Worship sentenced accused to three months' hard labour.

JAPAN SUGAR CO.'S SCANDALS.

CORRUPTION IN JAPANESE POLITICS.

Verbatim reports are published in Japanese papers of the answers of some of the persons arrested in connection with the Dai Nippon Sugar Company scandal when they were examined by Procurator Taketomi. They are signed by the accused and the Procurator. The records make a vivid picture of the corruption prevailing among political party men. We (*Japan Chronicle*) quote first, as presenting the company's side, the record of Mr. Imada Kamataro, a barrister, who acted as a legal adviser to the company, and is charged with having assisted the directors in bribing the members of the Diet. It reads as follows:

REVELATIONS OF MR. IMADA.

"Imada Kamataro, in response to my (the Procurator's) request, made his appearance at the Procurator's office in the Tokyo Chiba Saibansho on April 16th, 1909, in connection with the charge preferred against him and made the following statement:—

"The sum of ¥40,000 was expended by the company in December, 1908, according to a telephone communication by Matsura Gobei (a Constitutionalist now under arrest) at the time, and out of it the latter consequently paid ¥30,000 to Ogino Yoshizo, Yoshiyue Shochiro, Hasegawa Toyoko, and one Miyasaki, members of the Futsukakai (a group of Constitutionalist in the Diet), who in turn distributed among others the balance after deducting their own share. I think the share of each was not less than ¥1,000. Matsura further remarked that he had handed a certain sum to Yokoi Tokio and Muramatsu Aizo (the leading spirits of the party), who divided the money between themselves. I was further informed by Matsura that the day after he had received the money from Esaki Reiji he gathered eight or nine of the principal members of the Futsukakai at a certain place on some pretext for the purpose of distributing ¥200,000 of the ¥300,000 which had been received from the company. There Matsura produced the ¥200,000 and arranged the method of distributing the money. I did not learn the place where the meeting was held but I think it was at the office of the Futsukakai. . . . Tachikawa Unpei, of the Futsukakai, received money from Matsura. The latter told me that he had handed Tachikawa a portion of the money received from the company. Unfortunately his house was entered by a burglar, who carried away the money in question. From these remarks of Matsura it is plain that Tachikawa is a recipient of the money.

WHERE THE BRIBES WERE NEGOTIATED.

"Early in February, 1908, as far as my memory serves, Matsura invited me by telephone to come to a large tea-house (*machiai*) called Kiraku, or something like that five or six dozen west of the Tanpei electric car station. I went there about 11 o'clock at night and found Matsura drinking sake in company with a geisha in a small room of 41 mats on the ground floor. Matsura told me that all were striving hard for the sugar monopoly question and that he would introduce me to all. Thereupon I went upstairs and found in a spacious room Okuno Ichijiro and Yoshiyue

The Sunning Railway.

OFFICIAL OPENING.

SOME DETAILS OF THE LINE.

Everybody is interested in railway work in China. Everybody, who has China's interests at heart, follows these colossal undertakings carefully. Everybody is watching China's steady progress in railway building with awe. Nobody can dispute the fact that a railway is a huge asset to a country. It not only alleviates distress, brings increased prosperity to agriculture and production generally, opens up new country and gives great facility to districts formerly dependent on the river trade, but incites people to labour in confidence that they will receive its fruits.

On the 3rd instant, the official opening of the Sunning Railway (a private concern) by the Viceroy of Canton, or one of his representatives, will take place. And it was considered necessary that our readers should be posted with full particulars of the line. Of course, we are in no position to go into minute details until the line is seen, but we append below what facts we have gathered from one of the leading men connected with the railway, who was good enough to grant one of our representatives an interview.

The line, we were given to understand, was built entirely of Chinese capital, and by Chinese labour.

"No, there was not a single European attached to the line," said the gentleman in answer to the interviewer's question. "My father, Mr. Chin Goo Hoo, was the engineer in charge. He is also president and manager."

"What experience has your father in railway-building?"

"Many years' experience. He has been employed as engineer on many railway lines in the United States of America. He took an active part in building the Seattle Railroad."

"It was a pity that the chief engineer was not present at the interview, from whom we could secure more definite news. We learnt that he was at the scene of operations attending to the finishing touches of the line."

In the course of further conversation with the gentleman, the interviewer was told that the railway ran from Kung Yik to Tan Shan, a distance of forty-four miles, which were covered in nearly two hours and a half.

"How long did it take you to complete the line?"

"About two years."

"The road bed was laid in the fifth moon of the 33rd year of Kwong Sui, and in the eleventh moon trains were running half way to Sun Hung. The cost of building the railway was \$2,000,000, and it is expected to link on with the Hankow trunk line."

"Where there any tunnels to pierce?"

"None. We had a straight path."

"From where did you get material for building the line?"

"Some from England, some from the United States and Germany."

"As we have already stated, this line is a private one, built by American Chinese, and the opening will be of a semi-private nature."

OPIUM SMUGGLING.

CHARGE OF IMPORTING INTO AUSTRALIA.

The second case against Edward Merchant, who was in charge of the launch *Warren* on January 27, when the Customs officers seized a quantity of opium, was considered at the High Court on Thursday, reports the *Sydney Evening News* of 30th April. The charge in this case was that of having imported the opium.

Mr. Wise, K.C., Mr. Blackett, and Mr. Davin (instructed by the Solicitor for the Commonwealth) appeared for the Crown, and Mr. Flannery (instructed by Mr. R. H. Levison) for the defendant, who pleaded not guilty.

Evidence that has been made public was taken in the case, and points raised in the previous cases were raised in this case by Mr. Flannery. Bernard Emerson, the owner of the steam launch *Warren*, was called, and he gave evidence corroborating Merchant's statement that he was in charge of the boat on wages, and had power to make terms for hiring it out.

Mr. Wise asked the witness to relate the conversation which he said Merchant had had with him.

Witness: Am I to repeat what was said in a private conversation?

His Honour: Yes.

Witness: He said the launch had been seized for smuggling opium.

What else did he say?—He asked me if I would put him in the same position he was in before. He said some Chinaman had asked him to go out with him.

What was the case for the Crown and Mr. Flannery tendered the depositions taken for the defence in Ah Way's case. He raised the points that there was no evidence of concert between the defendant and any person who might have imported them; and if the evidence amounted to proof of the offence referred to in section 236 and no more, the defendant could not be convicted under this information.

His Honour then proceeded to give his decision in Ah Way's case No. 1. It had been contended by the defendant that the Federal Parliament had no power to authorise the prosecution, and as both parties had withdrawn from this point to the High Court he did so. But he dealt with it on the point of law.

His Honour dealt with the evidence of the discovery of the opium. With regard to the conversation in the boat between MacManus and Merchant, his Honour dismissed that from his mind, and treated it as not being evidence against Ah Way.

"I am prepared," said his Honour, "in the circumstances of the case, to find in favour of the plaintiff subject to the point which I have reserved for the High Court, and the order I propose to make is in pursuance of section 18 of the Judiciary Act, to reserve for the Full Court this question: Is the proclamation of December 22, 1905, which appears in the Commonwealth Government Gazette of December 20, 1905, valid so far as it prohibits the importation of opium suitable for smoking?" Then I propose to reserve liberty, if the answer should be in favour of the plaintiff for him to apply to fix the penalty. I shall be ready then to decide.

Mr. Garland: There is no conviction yet?

His Honour: No. It is really an adjournment.

His Honour found that Merchant had unlawfully in his possession the goods referred to in the information, reserving one point raised for the High Court. In regard to the charge of importing, he took the view he took of section 236 it was unnecessary to say that Merchant must have been deemed to have under that section committed the offence, and that, therefore, the information under the Act was right in describing him as having unlawfully imported, that he had been "directly and indirectly concerned" in the commission of the offence.

Dall was extended in the case of each of the defendants.

China Lights.

REPORTED SALE OF CANTON PROPERTY.

\$1,360,000 CAPITAL OF NEW UNDERTAKING.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 28th May.

It is reported that the Canton Authorities have completed arrangements for the purchase of the Canton Electric Light Works and will soon take over the undertaking from the vendors—the China Light and Power Company, Limited, under the General Management of Messrs. Sheehan, Tomes & Co. The required capital for the re-purchase of the concern, including purchase expenses, assignment fees and other outgoings in order to convert the company into a purely Chinese enterprise is stated at \$1,360,000. Of this large amount one-half will be fully subscribed by the Provincial Government and the other half will be raised by subscriptions in shares to be offered to the public as already reported. It is now further learnt that the Taotai for the Department of Native Industries (Chun Mong Tang) has been charged with the duty of soliciting subscriptions for shares from among the officials, while Mr. Pan Pui Yu has the care of the application and allotment forms among the general public. The Viceroy has instructed both the Provincial Treasurer and the Salt Commissioner to assist Taotai Chun Mong Tang in the matter. It is confidently anticipated that the unofficial moiety of the required capital will be raised without any difficulty, as the national character of the undertaking fills the natives with enthusiasm in their desire to treat the concern as a foreign company. It is currently reported that Mr. Fung Wa-chun, of Hongkong, has been largely instrumental in bringing to a head the success of the negotiations for the sale and purchase of the electric works. He has been working continuously and laboriously to this end for the past three months.

[The sale of the above property was first reported in the *Telegraph* of Thursday last.—Ed., H. K. T.]

DROWNING NEAR YAU-MATI.

JAPANESE PHOTOGRAPHER TAKES HIS OWN LIFE.

At the Magistracy last Wednesday, an inquiry was held by Mr. J. H. Kemp, the Coroner, to ascertain the cause of the death of a Japanese named Subichi Beki, aged twenty-five years, who committed suicide in the harbour the other day.

Seki was in the employ of a local photographer. He had been in the Colony for nearly three years. On the morning of the 14th ultimo, he obtained leave from his employer, his excuse being that he was going on a trip to Canton. He was not seen alive after that. It was some five days later that the coastward (Hokkaido) of the steam launch *Meteor* discovered on a piece of vacant ground, near Yau-mati, close to the praya wall, a bundle of clothing.

On the face of the wall he saw blood stains. He reported the matter to Inspector Langley, at Water Police Station, and the clothing was taken charge of by the police. In the inner pocket the coat was found a letter, which, it is believed, explains the motive for the man taking his life. An hour after this discovery, Seki's body was found floating close to the spot where the clothing was discovered.

The clothing was taken, and the jury returned a verdict of "Suicide by drowning."

POSTAL DEVELOPMENT IN SHANGHAI.

RAPID PROGRESS.

Although for the past year the development of postal facilities in Shanghai and the district has been proceeding apace under the auspices of the Chinese Imperial Post Office at no time has the progress of the work been so rapid as at the present, says the *Shanghai Mercury*.

Within the last month or two the extension of the postal service and the increased facilities offered by the Imperial Post Office have been sufficient to make the action and call for favourable comment, but during the next few weeks when the scheme on foot commences to approach the completion of its present phase the results will be even more marked.

Perhaps the most important part of the new service is the establishment of a branch of the post-office in the native City. For this purpose a large semi-foreign building on the main thoroughfare running from the North Gate was secured, and a fortnight ago was opened to business. Up to the present no parcel business has been done there, but a foreigner will shortly be in charge and then the branch will be similar in its operations to the head office. Affecting the Settlement more closely will be the opening in a few days of a branch in Nanking Road. A building recently occupied by a bicycle store has been leased not far from Chekiang Road, and here all the kinds of postal business done in the head office will be transacted. This should prove of the greatest benefit to the community, not alone the Chinese either, and adjacent to such a busy part of the town as the Foochow Road district it is certainly required. A third branch is being arranged for on the French town, as a fortnight should see the work commence. In addition to these, the branch recently established at the corner of Rue Rataud and Rue Camille in French town, which is doing excellent work. Besides these evidences of activity on the part of the P. O. it is to be noticed that the number of deliveries per diem has been increased in the central district from seven rounds to eight, and in other parts of the Settlement from four to six. In one of the country districts which the Post-office has recently taken over, the delivery was formerly bi-weekly, and now is four times a day. This is a remarkable transformation, highly creditable to the energy of the authorities, who it may be mentioned, now have a radius of fifteen miles to cover.

VALUE OF A WIFE.

OPINION OF A COOLIE.

A Chinese woman, who had for months been hawking vegetables in the city, but without a licence, was arrested last Monday for the offence. The woman brought before a magistrate on Tuesday morning, the lady was fined \$5. When she was taken to the waiting room to await the payment of the penalty, the police officer, who had made the arrest, met the woman's husband.

Said the policeman—Are you going to pay your wife's fine?

The man so addressed said nothing for a while.

He was probably figuring out how long it would take to get back that \$5. Then he spoke. "No, I will not," he said to the officer of everybody. "She is not worth it. A week's gain will do her no harm."

The lady went to gaol.

Temple Collapse.

WORSHIPPERS ENTOMBED.

WOMEN FATALLY INJURED.

3rd Inst.

Wanchai was the scene of a startling collapse today. Two young women were buried under the debris of the fallen building, a man was injured by falling timber, and not a few had narrowly escaped from death. The women were the only persons taken to the Government Civil Hospital, and their condition is such that faint hopes are held out for their recovery.

The injured are:—
Ip Chuen (45), a married woman residing at 3, Queen's Road East.
Lo Ho (22), a married woman, of 5, Tai Yuen Street.

Fong Cheuk (50), the temple keeper.
Those who had narrow escapes were:—
Leung Po (28), a friend visiting the temple to worship.
A boy and a girl.

The collapse occurred shortly before eleven o'clock in the Tai Wong Temple, in Queen's Road East, and the noise caused by the falling bricks and the smashing of timber startled the whole neighbourhood. In a minute the street and cross lanes were crammed with onlookers, and this obstruction caused no little difficulty to the police and firemen from No. 2 Police Station, who were on the scene in quick time.

The news soon got around that there were some people buried under the ruins, and the rescuers lost not a second in finding out whether such was the case or not. When they arrived in the main hall of the temple (the large worshipping hall) they heard cries coming from two places under the debris. The police officers got to work and like Trojans they went about it, until finally they succeeded in getting out the unfortunate women, who were in a pitiful condition. A search for more bodies proved fruitless.

The women's clothing was partly ripped off their bodies, and they were bleeding profusely from various cuts and bruises. The head and neck of one of the women are believed to have been fractured, while the injuries sustained by the other are too numerous to mention in detail. They were taken to hospital in an unconscious state in Tung Wah Hospital ambulances.

Shortly after ten o'clock this morning the two women, who are friends, went to the temple to worship. This temple, it might here be said, has two halls. The larger hall is the high altar; the smaller altar is in the next hall, on the western side, and both are connected by means of a door.

Worshippers, as our reporter was told, are in the habit of visiting the small altar first and then concluding their worshipping in the next room, the high altar. Lo Ho followed this rule, and they were on their benched knees before the main altar when the roof over their heads crashed in a terrific bang. They were thrown on their sides and pinned down by the mass of bricks and tiles until rescued by the police.

When the news of the collapse reached this office, a *Telegraph* representative rushed to the temple, where he inspected the damage. The collapse was confined to the main hall only, the roof covering the small hall being intact, though, perhaps in a dangerous condition. The most curious thing about the accident is that, notwithstanding the direction, even penetrating into the adjoining worshipping place, no damage was done to the altars. Not an image was dislodged from its position.

The temple keeper when seen by the pressman was limping badly. He said that during the collapse he was standing at the street door waiting for his friend, Leung Po, who was in the kitchen. With Leung Po were the boy and girl. Suddenly, and without the least warning, he heard a crash, and before he had time to turn round, the roof had dropped. He was struck on the right ankle while he was standing. He was thrown several feet. Although swollen badly, the injury to the ankle is not so serious as to warrant his removal to hospital.

From Leung Po, who did not seem to have recovered from his fright, when he was spoken to, we obtained the following statement: "I was in the kitchen when the collapse took place. When I heard the crumbling noise I made to run through the temple to get to the street. I had proceeded about five paces when I discovered my passage barred."

"Turning round quickly on his heel he made for a side door, which he forced open, and he and his young companions effected their escape."

The collapse, it is said, is due to the bad condition of the beams supporting the roof, and also to the mortar which had become sodden for several days past, owing to the rains, and which had just been dried.

It is fortunate that the accident did not occur on another day when the temple is usually full of worshippers otherwise the consequences might have been much more serious.

COTTON YARN.

THE MARKET IN JAPAN.

No increase is shown in the stock of cotton yarn on the market in Osaka, despite the fact that the present is the period when some depression is shown. The *Osaka Asahi* ascribes this partly to the easiness of the money market, which enables buyers in the interior to hold large quantities, and partly to the increased number of weaving looms in spinning companies.

At the end of last year the total number of weaving looms used by the spinning companies was 1,146. Taking the quantity of cotton yarn consumed by each loom at one bale of 40 buns, a month's total consumption must be fairly large. About 7,700 looms have been added, 1,283 for the Mie Spinning, 300 for the Amagasaki Spinning, 600 for the Kanagawachi, 300 for the Temma Weaving Company, and 376 for the Wakayama Weaving Company, and they are already partly in operation. In addition to these many individual weaving factories have now been set up. These have largely increased the consumption of and demand for cotton yarn.

THE YUKUSHIMA SPINNING COMPANY. It was expected that debentures of the Yukushima Cotton Spinning Company would be issued shortly to the amount of ¥500,000. The *Japan Chronicle* now learns from the *Osaka Asahi* that the amount has been reduced to ¥300,000 and the date of issue postponed to about October next, as the present balance of money is expected to continue longer. Moreover, the result of the working of the company for the present half-year is expected to leave a surplus of ¥50,000 after distributing a dividend at the rate of 12 per cent, while for the next half-year a surplus of ¥150,000 after paying a dividend at the same rate is anticipated. The proposal is to be laid before the forthcoming general meeting of the company.

RETURN of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending the 30th May, 1909.

	Library.	Museum.
Non-Chinese	315	741
Chinese	25	1,94
Total	340	2,685

PARTING OF OLD FRIENDS.

CAUSE OF DISPUTE TOLD AT POLICE COURT.

A rather interesting case was heard by Mr. F. A. Hazeland in the Police Court, last Thursday, when a clerk summoned a foreman engineer, residing at Kowloon, for using insulting and abusive language towards him on the 17th ult. There was a cross-summons for a similar offence.

The evidence heard was that about 2.45 p.m. on the day in question a witness, while returning to his quarters from work, saw the defendant enter a contractor's office, for what purpose he did not know. Some minutes later he saw complainant follow into the office. Then witness heard filthy language being used between the parties. While this was going on, the wife of the complainant appeared on the scene, and she was insulted by defendant, who used very insulting language, and added that his children were white, and not "wongs."

Defendant was called to the witness-box. He stated the alleged facts of the case, and after that was cross-examined by the defendant.

Defendant—When we were both working at the railway we were not on very friendly terms?

Witness—Yes.

Was it not through you that I got dismissed?—No. Ever since you got dismissed you have been causing trouble.

At this stage defendant said to the Court that complainant was one of the most quarrelsome men at the railway.

Continuing, he asked: Were you not black-balled at a Freemason's Lodge in the Colony owing to your habit of "don't know?"

Were you not put up for election?—I don't know.

Are you a Freemason?—No.

It is not a fact that the two witnesses I have called, and who have failed to appear, were threatened by you that they would "lose two days' pay" if they came to Court?—No.

It is not a fact that on account of your drunkenness you were black-balled at a certain club?—I don't know.

Do you remember when I was working at the railway?—Yes.

One day did not get leave from you to shift my piano, and did not report me?—No.

Did you not attempt to strike an inspector with a stick?—I had a quarrel with him.

Did you not attempt to strike him?—No.

Now, if I had called your wife a why did you not strike me down to the ground like any decent Englishman?—I did not want to take the law into my hands.

You are thin-skinned?—His Worship objected.

An accountant in the employ of a Chinese contractor explained shortly what took place at Lai-chi-kok that evening. The two men quarrelled there, he said.

Another witness said that on the night in question he saw defendant leave the quarters of a rich man. Before defendant met a child, and putting the child on the head and addressing complainant and his wife, said: "This is white and not a wong."

Complainant's solicitor asked what defendant meant by that. The witness explained that complainant had been married to a Japanese lady.

Cross-examined by defendant: The witness was not drunk the whole time when he was with his last employers. He did not know why he was dismissed—for nothing, he believed. Witness was not found dead drunk in his quarters, and sent for his pay.

Defendant: Then you have been dismissed for no cause at all?—As far as I could see.

Where were you working before?—The Naval Yard.

And were you not dismissed from there for drunkenness too?—No.

Were you strictly sober on the day of this affair?—Yes, strictly sober.

A European foreman said that he heard the noise in the contractors' office, and heard complainant say to defendant: "Who gave you authority to use the telephone?" Complainant also told him he had no right in the premises, and requested him to leave. As defendant was leaving he turned round and called complainant a cur and other unprintable names, also saying: "I'd like to knock your head off." He then made a lunge at his opponent. Complainant drew back and the blow struck his cap, knocking it to the floor. Defendant then quitted the place, and getting into the ricksha, in which already was his son, turned to complainant's wife and said: "This is white. There is no wong attached to him." He then insulted the lady.

Under cross-examination, the witness said he was quite sober on that day. It was not a fact that if he gave evidence in this case against complainant he would not be able to any harm. He was not afraid of the man.

Defendant—Would a man not be a lunatic to use such unprintable language towards a lady in front of his own child?—I am telling the truth.

At this stage the case was adjourned until Wednesday afternoon.

OSAKA SHOSHEN KAISHA.

THE DEBENTURE ISSUE.

Subscriptions to the Osaka Shoshen Kaisha 7 per cent. debentures closed on Friday, 21st ult., with a very satisfactory result. The amount applied for in Tokyo and Osaka, so far as ascertained up to 10 p.m. on Friday, was ¥3,416,700, of which ¥2,285,000 were subscribed in Osaka alone. This was an excess of ¥1,131,700 over the amount required. When the reports arrive from all the local branches, it is believed the amount will be found to have considerably exceeded requirements.

The *Japan Chronicle* learns from a Japanese paper that the amount of old debentures of the company now outstanding is ¥3,500,000, while the paid-up capital amounts to ¥16,500,000. The accounts of the company at the end of last year showed that the total assets were valued at ¥24,565,800. The value of the vessels was estimated at ¥14,000,000, but the amount of the reserve was not more than ¥1,650,000.

The figure given as the value of vessels works out at ¥120 per ton, which is a remarkable increase over former figures and is due to the number of new steamers added to the company's fleet. Up in the end of April next, six new vessels, each of 6,000 tons, are to be added. The tonnage of the fleet during the term of five years from the end of 1903 to the end of last year has increased by about 45,000.

BOATING FATALITY.

SAD ACCIDENT IN SANDAKAN.

A sad boating fatality occurred in Sandakan harbour yesterday afternoon, reports the *B. N. Borneo Herald*, of 17th ult.

The second officer and second engineer of the s.s. *Tringnan*, accompanied by a Malay quartermaster, went off in a small native boat intending to go to Pulau Day. When some three-quarters of the way across the boat was capsized by a heavy sea. The second engineer, a foreman, was drowned. After searching for some time and finding no signs of Harvapp, the second officer and the quartermaster managed to right the boat and returned to the s.s. *Tringnan*. A steam launch put off and searched but, up to the time of writing, the body has not been recovered.

MURDER IN CANTON.

TAOTAI FOULLY DONE TO DEATH.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 28th May.

Taotai Lau Sze Kee alias Lau Ming Pok, a native of the Lung Moon district and a well known citizen here as well as in Hongkong, was murdered at his residence in Wing On Lane last evening at half-past seven o'clock. He was called on by three visitors, who, under false pretence allowed themselves to be members of the Hongkong Wah Yick Company; seven other confederates kept watch at the door. The late Taotai Lau was very familiar with the Wah Yick Company, so he received the disguised visitors without hesitation. The three men, as soon as they were received into the presence of Taotai Lau, drew out their daggers and stabbed him in four different places on the body. Taotai Lau at once fell down unconscious and succumbed from his fatal injuries in a very short time. All the other inmates in the house were threatened with their lives by the ruffians, so they could not raise an alarm, until the assassins had taken their departure. The Kwangchow Brigadier-General and the Police officials, on learning of the tragedy, hastened to the scene but could find no trace of the culprits. On the recommendation of the Kwangchow Governor, the late Taotai Lau proceeded to the United States of America to collect subscriptions from the Chinese residing there for the formation of the Kwangsi Chun Wah Banking and Mining Company for the development of the mineral resources of Kwangsi. The deceased returned to Canton only a few weeks ago from San Francisco.

ROBBERY AT THE PEAK.

GOOD-HAUL OF JEWELLERY MADE BY THIEF.

During the absence of the occupier of 116, Gough Hill Road, the Peak, between seven and half-past eleven o'clock last Tuesday night, a thief forced an entrance into the house, and making his way into one of the bedrooms, got away with a good haul of jewellery. The robbery was not discovered until late that night, and headquarters were promptly notified. The list of the property stolen is as follows:—\$100 in notes, one twenty franc note, a gold watch chain with jade pendant, valued at \$50, a gold bracelet, worth \$50, a gold ring, \$15; a pair of Japanese bracelets, valued at \$12, a lady's gold watch, the value of which was given at \$150, a brooch set with pearls, with a green stone in the centre, value \$40—the total aggregating \$425. The police are investigating the affair.

RAUB RETURNS.

The following is the result of crushing operations at Raub for the four weeks ending 22nd ultimo:—

DUKUT KOMAN.

Stones crushed 388 tons
Gold obtained 1,092 ounces
Average per ton 5.62 dwts.

HUKIT-MALACCA.

Stones crushed 2,094 tons
Gold obtained 80 ounces
Average per ton 1.05 dwts.

CVANIDE.

for 12 weeks ending 22nd ultimo 91 ozs.

A WOMAN'S JEALOUSY.

What is supposed to have been a case of jealousy was explained in the Police Court, last Wednesday. A Chinaman was charged with stealing from a woman residing in Yee Yik Lane a metal water pipe, valued about \$1. The evidence was to the effect that the defendant, who was "not known" to the complainant, paid her a visit on previous day. He remained there for a while, and soon after his departure there was a loss. The other side of the story was that complainant and defendant were old sweethearts. They had had a lover's tiff; had agreed to part; and the charge, so it is alleged, was preferred against the man to get him into "hot water." The defendant was liberated at once.

SUMATRA CANNIBALS.

USE OF MEDICINE AMONG THEIR LAST REPRESENTATIVES.

A Dutch colonial surgeon who practices at Medan, on the east coast of Sumatra, has communicated to the Academy of Medicine of Paris a paper on Medicine among the Bataks, and this has been published in the French medical journal *La Semaine Medicale*. The Bataks are the last representatives of the Sumatran cannibals and the description of their physical and moral condition is not pleasant reading. Their medicine, like that of most other savages, is largely dominated by their endeavours to propitiate the evil spirits who they believe cause disease. They do, however, use massage, medicated baths, and various drugs, and they seem to have a good working knowledge of a large number of indigenous poisons like different kinds of strychnos, solanaceae, and euphorbiaceae. It is unfortunate that their superstitions do not allow them to make use of the hot and sulphur springs which are close at hand. Leprosy is much dreaded, and sufferers are obliged to live at a distance from the villages, the inhabitants of which convey food to them. In epidemics of small-pox and cholera, the people desert their villages, but Dr. Romer, the writer of the paper, says the introduction of vaccination by the missionaries had a good effect. A certain amount of crude surgery is practised by the people, who understand the use of splints, for example, in the treatment of fractures.

VOLUNTEER CORPS ORDERS.

SIGNALLING CLASS.

At Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Monday, the 7th, and Wednesday, the 9th instant.

AMBULANCE CLASS.

More names are still required for this class.

PROMOTION.

Mr. J. Johnston is promoted to Troop Sergeant-Major with effect from 20th May.

ENGINEER COMPANY.

Drills for the above company will be held on the first and last Wednesdays of the month until further notice.

It is proposed to form a rifle club of the above company. A meeting will be held at Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Thursday, 3rd instant. All members are requested to attend.

HO SHAP, unemployed, was charged in the Police Court, last Thursday, with stealing a quantity of small articles and seven books from a shopkeeper, residing in Wing Kut Street. Defendant was employed by the shopkeeper until Wednesday, when he purloined the goods, and disappeared. He was sentenced to six weeks' hard labour and six hours' escort.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS.

Not a few subjects of special importance are dealt with in this week's number of the Municipal Gazette. Of these the first to catch the attention, both

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

THE TUNGKUANSHAN CONCESSION.

SIR JOHN KAYE FIRM.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 28th May.
The Waiwupu has deputed H.E. Law Po-sun (ex-Consul-General in the Transvaal) to confer with Sir John Lister Kaye on the question of the Tungkuanshan Concession.

But in his communication to the Foreign Ministry Sir John maintains a firm attitude and so no settlement has yet been reached.

THE BOXER TROUBLE.

AND THE '98 COUR.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 28th May.
In writing the biography of the late Emperor Kwang Su, the historians had Yuan Shih-kai to blame for the coup d'état in 1898 and the former Prince Tuan for the Boxer outbreak.

FAREWELL DINNER TO U.S. CONSUL-GENERAL.

A REPRESENTATIVE GATHERING.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Shanghai, 30th May, 1.5 p.m.

A farewell dinner was given on Saturday night in honour of Mr. Charles Denby, the retiring United States Consul-General at Shanghai. Covers were laid for 170 guests.

THE HANGCHOW RAILWAY.

OPENING OF KIANGSU SECTION.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Shanghai, 30th May, 1.5 p.m.

Yesterday, the Kiangsu section of the Hangchow Railway was formally opened. The utmost enthusiasm prevailed, fireworks being let off abundantly. Large crowds filled the platform at the end of each journey. The distance of 112 li was covered in 2 1/2 hours.

HONGKONG UNIVERSITY.

CANTON VICEROY'S SYMPATHY.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 30th May.
A memorial has been received from the Viceroy of Canton praying that instructions be given throughout the Empire to aid the British Colonial Government in founding the Hongkong University.

PRINCE CHING'S HEALTH.

THE REGENT'S CONCERN.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 30th May.
The Prince Regent has directed Prince To Pu to call at Prince Ching's residence to inquire after his health.

CHINESE CONSULATES.

WISHES OF CHINESE ABROAD.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 30th May.
Numerous telegrams have been received from Chinese abroad urging the establishment of Consulates.

THE TUNGKUANSHAN MINES.

BRITISH CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 31st May.
The British Syndicate claim 100,000,000 (£10,000,000) for the surrender of the Tungkuanshan mining concession.
The Central Government has decided to let the matter stand in abeyance for the present.

WANG TA HSIEH.

REMOVAL FROM OFFICE.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 31st May.
The Grand Council has decided to remove Wang Ta Hsieh from the Vice-presidency of the Ministry of Posts and Communications in order to comply with the wishes of the people.

ABOLITION OF LIKIN.

INCREASE OF DUTIES.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 31st May.
The Grand Council has had several conferences with the various Ministers with a view of effecting the abolition of likin and the increase of duties.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

LOAN AGREEMENT NOT YET SIGNED.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 1st June.
With reference to the Canton-Hankow Railway loan, the Central Government is desirous of employing British engineers and purchasing materials from British manufacturers.

In the circumstance H.E. Chang Chih-tung, superintendent-general of the railway, has not yet signed the agreement which is awaiting further consideration.

CHINA'S THANKS.

PRESENTS FOR THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 1st June.
The Prince Regent has set apart one image of Buddha of jade, two pairs of old porcelain, and two pairs of other curios from the Imperial collection for Prince Chen to convey to the Emperor of Japan as presents to His Imperial Highness on the occasion of the mission of thanks for the attendance by Prince Fushimi at the funeral of the late Emperor Kwang Su.

ABOLITION OF LIKIN.

INCREASE OF DUTIES.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 1st June.
In reference to the proposal for the abolition of likin and the increase of duties, all the Ministers have agreed with the exception of the German Minister who is opposed to it.

THE SHANGHAI TAOTAI.

PROPOSED TRANSFER.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 1st June.
The Grand Council proposes to effect a change of posts between Taai Nai-huang, the Shanghai Taotai, and Chen Chi-tai.

IMPENDING FAMINE.

PROLONGED DROUGHT IN THE NORTH.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 1st June.
There has been a prolonged drought in the provinces of Honan and Anhui.

If the drought should be protracted another ten days it is feared that famine will overtake the territory.

CHINA MERCHANTS' S. N. CO.

SHUNG KUNG-PAO TO BE SUPERINTENDENT.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 2nd June.
The Ministry of Posts and Communications has decided to appoint H.E. Shung Kung-pao to be superintendent of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Co.

THE CHEKIANG RAILWAY.

SURVEY PARTY ASSAULTED.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 2nd June.
In surveying the route from Chekiang to Kiangsu, the engineer of the survey party was set upon by the natives and seriously injured. The engineer is returning to Hangchow.

SHANGHAI-KASHING RAILWAY.

CHINESE SUPERINTENDENT APPOINTED.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 2nd June.
The Ministry of Posts and Communications has deputed Jim Tin-yow, the Chinese engineer, to examine and take over the control of the railway from Shanghai to Kashing.

Superintendent Jim Left, Hankow on the 30th ultimo by express train en route for Shanghai.

AGED OFFICIALS.

SEEK RETIREMENT.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 2nd June.
Luk Chin-lum, Yeung Hing, and Sun Ka-nai have asked to be allowed to retire on account of old age. The Prince Regent is rather vexed at the applications.

SOUTH MANCHURIA.

CHINESE TELEGRAPHS.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 2nd June.
Japan has agreed to the taking over by the Ministry of Posts and Communications of the management of the telegraphs in South Manchuria within the current month.

INTERNATIONAL SLEEPING CAR CO.

WORKING AGREEMENT DESIRED.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 2nd June.
The International Sleeping Car Co. has applied to China for a working agreement.

The Grand Council has not yet decided what reply to make to the application.

THE SUNNING RAILWAY.

OPENING CEREMONY.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Sunning, 3rd June.
The inaugural ceremony of the Ning-yeung Railway took place today. Among those present were the Viceroy's representative, Taotai Hung Hing Tai, Taotai Chan Mong Tsung (of the Bureau for the Development of Native Industries), and the British Consul-General at Canton.

There were altogether several hundred people present.

To add to the brilliancy of the ceremony the harbour presented a very gay appearance with the fleet of eleven steam-launches, some twenty flower boats for the accommodation of the guests, and one gunboat [which conveyed the officials from Canton].

RAILWAY IN ANHUI.

AN UNRECOGNISED COMPANY.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 3rd June.
The Po Lum Co. has undertaken to build railways throughout the Province of Anhui and has engaged engineers to survey the route.

It is reported that Viceroy Tuan Fang does not recognise the company.

THE TUNGKUANSHAN CONCESSION.

CONFERENCE WITH SIR JOHN KAYE.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 3rd June.
The representatives of Anhui Province had a long conference with Sir John Lister Kaye and in the discussion which ensued gained their points.

Later.
The Anhui representatives have presented a petition to the Waiwupu in which very forcible terms were employed.

The Waiwupu has not yet replied to the memorial.

Both the Waiwupu and Sir John Kaye were rather embarrassed over this new development, and the Waiwupu has decided to apply to Viceroy Tuan Fang and the Governor of Anhui to use their best endeavours to break up the union which has been formed by the people, so that the matter may be settled amicably.

SHIPPING.

HSU SHIH-CHANG'S INTEREST.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 3rd June.
H.E. Hsu Shih-chang, president of the Ministry of Posts and Communications, takes a keen interest in all that concerns shipping matters.

CHINA'S SOVEREIGN RIGHTS.

A LIST OF LOSSES.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 3rd June.
The Waiwupu has submitted to the Prince Regent a list of the privileges and sovereign rights lost by China within recent years.

MANILA had an earthquake early in the morning on the 27th ult. and while the experts at the Observatory class it as slight it was sharp enough to thoroughly arouse and slightly alarm a lot of folk. The shock came at a minute after 4, and lasted just ten seconds; it seemed longer, but the instruments made an indisputable record. The latter also show that before the main shock, the only one the people felt, there were preliminary vibrations for 37 seconds. The shock was felt in all the neighboring provinces and the observatory experts say the point of origin was probably somewhere on the eastern coast of Luzon. Mr. M. de Manila.

Divorce Damages.

CAPT. MITCHELL VS. JOHN LEMM.

OLD CASE RE-OPENED IN THE SUPREME COURT.

Last Tuesday afternoon, in the Supreme Court (the Chief Justice, Sir Francis Pigott, presiding) the case of *Capt. Mitchell vs. John Lemm*, master of the steamer *Fan Sang*, is seeking to obtain damages from John Lemm, the architect, for damages for alleged misconduct with his wife. His Lordship had not had sufficient time to consider the various points submitted, but he intimated this morning that his judgment would be handed down some time next week.

A Coroner's inquiry was held at the Magistrate's last Thursday forenoon, to investigate the cause of the death of a boy named Chad Kun, who met his death in the Harbour a few days ago, as the result of a collision between the steam-launch *Yau Wo* and a cargo-boat, on which the deceased had been employed.

Mr. J. H. Kemp presided. The jury empanelled consisted of Messrs. S. Boulton, P. H. J. G. Jonckheer, and C. A. Carr. Inspector Langley watched the proceedings on behalf of the police. Mr. P. W. Goldring, of Messrs. Goldring, Barlow and Morrell, appeared for the owners and coxswain of the launch.

After the jury had been called and the inquiry was about to begin, Mr. Goldring said that he understood that there was a charge preferred against the coxswain.

The Coroner—Yes.
Mr. Goldring—It is very awkward. It will prejudice my client's case.

Inspector Langley, agreed to withdraw the charge pending the result of the inquiry.

The first witness called was Dr. Pearce, medical officer of the public mortuary at Kowloon, who spoke to holding a post-mortem examination on the body of the deceased. The body, he said, was in a state of decomposition, but there were signs that the body had been in the water. There were no external injuries. From the internal examination he found that the lungs had collapsed and contained a dark watery fluid. In the doctor's opinion death was due to drowning.

A boatwoman named Cheung Cho Yai said that on one Sunday morning (1st June) she was on board the boat with her two brothers, the deceased and another. This was between three and four o'clock in the morning, at which time witness and her brothers were shrimpling off Reclamation Street, Yau-mat. As the launch was leaving the bay, witness sighted a launch coming from the direction of Hongkong.

When she got about 100 feet away from the launch, witness called out, "Look out!" There was no whistle blown. Again witness cried out, "Save life!" but the launch continued ahead, and struck the junk amidships, causing her to founder immediately, the craft going down bow first. The force of the collision threw the junk's crew into the water.

The Court—What happened then?
Witness—We called out, and another boat rescued us.

What became of Chad Kun?—He was not seen after the collision.

When last did you see him?—Soon before the collision when he helped me to haul up the anchor.

Did he not fall overboard by himself?—No. After the collision, the witness continued, the launch went ahead, but returned to the scene later, remaining there for a short while. The only time a life-belt was thrown into the water was done by the launch people when she returned.

In cross-examination, the witness said that the night was a dark one, an east wind was blowing, and a fast ebb tide was running. When the junk left the bay it was being headed for Hongkong.

Mr. Goldring—How big is your junk?—Not very big.

Where is your licence?—With my lawyer.

Was your sail up?—We were shrimpling. We were rowing slowly at the time. There was no wind.

But you said there was an east wind?—When we were shrimpling we don't use the sail.

How many lights did you carry?—Three. One light, five feet high, at the mast. The other was on the mast, which was used for cleaning shrimps.

The steam launch carried lights also, the witness continued. The starboard light was the first one she saw; then the masthead light. When the launch was first seen she was about eight or ten feet away from the junk. It was not until after the collision that the port light was seen. The junk was about eight or ten (Chinese) feet away from the shore when she was struck.

By the Court—Witness could not say how far away from the shore the other fishing junks were, but as soon as the collision occurred they went to the rescue.

FATAL COLLISION IN THE HARBOUR.

FULL PARTICULARS OF A RECENT DROWNING.

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By the Court—Witness could not say how far away from the shore the other fishing junks were, but as soon as the collision occurred they went to the rescue.

At this stage the Coroner surprised the spectators in Court by suddenly closing the inquiry and discharging the jury. In so doing he said that when he called the jury he had only certain documents before him. This morning, however, he had received another document, which, if he had seen before he would have directed that the coxswain be charged with manslaughter. That would have been the fairer way of doing it. He now proposed to abandon the inquiry, and proceed against the coxswain. The jury was discharged, his Worship expressing his regret for having placed them to so much inconvenience.

The coxswain, Ho Kau, was then brought before the Court, and asked to plead to the charge of manslaughter. The defendant replied that he did not know if that was so or no. The deceased, he added, could not be saved.

The case was then adjourned.

LUZON SUGAR CO.
STRIKE OF EMPLOYEES.

The Manila Times of 29th ult. says:—The strike of the employees of the Luzon Sugar Refinery, at Malabon, is at an end. A compromise was reached yesterday between the workmen and the management, and the men all returned to work this morning.

On April 13th this guild of the Union Obrera made formal demand on the company for an increase to three pesos per day for all foremen and operators, with work hours from 6 to 8 and 8.30 to 12 in the morning, and from 1 to 6 in the afternoon. The company refused to respond to the demands of the Union, and a strike was ordered, the entire force walking out on May 12.

Yesterday Ernesto del Rosario, vice-president of the Union, called at the factory at Malabon, and after a conference with the general manager, John Galbreath, a compromise was effected. The company acceded to the demands of the workmen for shorter hours, but agreed to increase the pay of the men by only one peso per day instead of three, as demanded.

The refinery was again opened for business this morning, and all the strikers returned to work.

CONTRACTORS AT LAW.

DISPUTE OVER NAVAL YARD ENCLOSURE WALL.

Mr. Justice Gompertz having recovered from his slight illness, presided in the Summary Jurisdiction Court, last Thursday when the action brought by Li Wo Shing, of the Wo Shing firm, of 11, High Street, West, Peking, against Lai Fook, representing the Yee Sang Company, 194, Third Street, to recover the sum of \$123.40, alleged to be for work done and materials supplied, came on for hearing. The defendant admitted owing part of the claim—\$112—which was paid into Court.

Mr. Johnson, of the firm of Messrs. Denney and Bowley, appeared for the plaintiff. Mr. P. Sydenham Dixon defended.

It was stated that the plaintiff was a sub-contractor and was employed by a defendant. The contract made between them was that the plaintiff should attend to the wall enclosing the Naval Yard Extension, along Murray Road, from the V. R. C. and almost up to Queen's Road. It was granite and coping stone work. It was a verbal agreement made between the parties, but subsequently a memorandum was made showing what the price of the work was to be. Some time afterwards the plaintiff was requested by the defendant to do some additional work to the wall. The defendant agreed to the higher prices charged and the work was completed, but he in the end refused to pay plaintiff the full amount for the work done.

The defence was that under the memorandum, already mentioned, the prices were stipulated, and according to that \$112 was all that was due and owing.

The defendant had nothing to do with what higher wages plaintiff chose to pay the workmen during China New Year time.

Mr. Albert Denison, a partner of the firm of Denison, Ram and Gibbs, architects, said that he had measured the work done on the wall. The witness then went into technical details regarding granite and coping stone, work, and added that it was necessary for contractors to pay higher wages during the Chinese New Year festival in order to keep workmen at work.

The plaintiff was called to the witness stand, and he corroborated what has been stated above.

The case was adjourned.

THE NAVAL YARD WALL DISPUTE ENDED.

The Peking Judge (Mr. U. H. J. Gompertz) rendered his decision in the Supreme Court, yesterday, in the action brought by Li Wo Shing, of the Wo Shing firm, of 11, High Street, West, Peking, against Lai Fook, representing the Yee Sang Company, 194, Third Street, to recover the sum of \$123.40, alleged to be for work done and materials supplied. The defendant, it will be recollected, admitted owing part of the claim—\$112—which was paid into Court.

His Honour entered judgment for the plaintiff, with costs.

In this matter, the reader will remember, the plaintiff was a sub-contractor and was employed by the defendant. The contract made between them was that the plaintiff should attend to the wall enclosing the Naval Yard Extension, along Murray Road, from the V. R. C. and almost up to Queen's Road. It was granite and coping stone work. It was a verbal agreement made between the parties, but subsequently a memorandum was made showing what the price of the work was to be. Some time afterwards the plaintiff was requested by the defendant to do some additional work to the wall. The defendant agreed to the higher prices charged and the work was completed, but he in the end refused to pay plaintiff the full amount for the work done.

For the defence it was understood that in the memorandum the price of the work had been stipulated, and according to that, document \$112 was all that was due and owing.

In giving his decision, his Honour said that it seemed to him that if the plaintiff took the risk of not consulting the builder, and not the building work, in accordance with the plans he could not get his claim. As regarded the second part of his claim—the extra charge—he thought he must get judgment for the amount paid into Court, \$112, and the balance of the extra costs of labour during the Chinese New Year festival.

Judgment was accordingly entered for the plaintiff for \$123.40 and costs.

JUNK MASTER'S WORRIES.

QUESTION OF PRIORITY RAISED.

Yesterday morning, in the Court of Summary Jurisdiction, Mr. Justice Gompertz presiding, further argument was continued in the case in which a trader named Tso Lun, of 41, Maud Road, Shau-ki-wan, is proceeding against Ho Cheung, the master of the *Song Cheung Yung Kee* junk, to recover the sum of \$25.05, balance of an amount alleged to have been deposited with the defendant for a certain purpose. There were two defendants against the junk master. One was by Li Fo, a fisherman, also of Maud Road, Shau-ki-wan, who sued for \$100, and the other by Cheung Kam Tai for \$870.60, alleged to have been for salt fish sold and delivered.

When the case was called Mr. John Hastings referred to the case in which a number of judgments had been entered against the owner of a certain junk.

His Honour inquired whether the debt had been paid off.

His Lordship said it was not so.

THE O. S. K. NEW SERVICE.

FORTHCOMING INADUATION.

On June 2nd the Tacoma-maru, the first vessel on the new service of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha between Hongkong and Tacoma, left Kobe for Hongkong to inaugurate the service. On the completion of the whole fleet the service will be a fortnightly one. The general route will be from Hongkong, via Shanghai, Moji, Kobe, and Yokohama, occasionally calling at Yokohama and Shimonoseki, to Tacoma, Wash., where the service is to connect with the sole traffic arrangement with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company, of Chicago, Ill., who are now extending their new line to the Puget Sound.

The service will comprise six new steamers, augmenting the company's present fleet of 127 vessels. They will be each of 12,000 tons displacement (3,500 net), and of a maximum speed of 15 knots per hour. After the launch of the Tacoma-maru the other five vessels will follow at about intervals. The latest appliances have been adopted in the general construction of the steamers as well as on the gear and accommodation for stowage, cargo, and other valuable. Extensive docks, warehouses, and other terminal facilities, too, are nearing completion at Tacoma, which, it is claimed, will practically have no rival on the Pacific Coast. The company claims that their arrangements will amply ensure an absence of possible damage to cargo as well as its rapid handling and transportation.

The Pacific Extension of the connecting railway, the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, is expected to be completed by June, making an aggregate total mileage of 1,000 miles, of 4,300, and this extension will bring forth at once an improved fast freight service between Tacoma and Chicago, the Eastern States and other American and Canadian points. This line, it may be noted, is the southernmost road running from Puget Sound, and also the only direct service to Chicago under one through control. It will be the shortest route to the Atlantic seaboard—2,177 miles to Chicago and 3,064 miles to New York—and with the track well laid out, easy grade and curves throughout, and the lower altitude in the Cascades and Rockies combined with the new steamship service across the Pacific it is hoped that the new service will be well patronised.

For the handling of local cargo, such as destined for or arriving from various ports in the Sound, British Columbia, and other Pacific Coast points, the necessary arrangements have been concluded with the local steamships and railroads, and every important quarter is now equipped with efficient agencies.

The following particulars of the new vessels are of interest. The hulls are of Kawaishi Shipbuilding Co., Ltd., of Kobe. The length of the boats, which will be twin-screw, will be 410 feet, greatest width 51 ft. 3 ins., and depth 31 ft. 6 ins. They will have a displacement of 12,000 tons, with a gross register tonnage of 6,178 and a net register of 3,535 tons. They are classed 100 A1 at Lloyd's. Their speed will be 15 knots. The vessels will be electric-lighted and steam-heated. They will be two-decked under the Japanese Government's and Lloyd's three-deck rule, with fore-castle, long bridge-deck, and pop-up deck-house on the bridge and aft. There will be two masts, the fore-mast being the mainmast, and will run throughout with a deep tank at the engine room, while there will be seven watertight and two screen bulkheads, wide-spaced tubular pillars, steel upper and main decks, and steel lower-deck in the hold. There will be two sets of triple expansion engines, and the load draft of the vessels will be 25 ft. 8 ins. Passenger accommodation will be provided for 200 stowage berths, while a limited number can be accommodated in the cabin. 814, treasure, and parcel rooms will also be installed. An extra cargo deck, of lifting 30 tons will be fitted on the vessels, besides the ordinary cranes.—*Japan Chronicle.*

THE TEMPLE COLLAPSE.

PATIENTS RECOVERING GRADUALLY.

The two women, Ip Chuen (45), a married woman residing at 3, Queen's Road East, and Lo Ho (22), a married woman, of 5, Tai Yuen Street, who were injured in the collapse in the Tai Wong Temple last Thursday, as first reported in our last issue, are progressing favourably. Inquiries made at the Government Civil Hospital to-day, elicited the information that the patients were doing well, and there is no fear entertained regarding their recovery. Ip Chuen, we are given to understand, is recovering rapidly, but this cannot be said of Lo Ho, who is in a very weak condition. It will be several days before the pair can leave the institution.

HONGKONG CAPITAL IN THE PHILIPPINES.

A MINING VENTURE.

Barugo, 28th May. A Hongkong syndicate has purchased a tenth interest in the Headwaters Mining Company (Inc.) from Mr. H. W. Whitman, for the sum of P40,000. Governor Whitman represented the Hongkong capitalists in closing the deal. This is one of the most important mining deals put through here this year and is an indication of the interest being taken by capitalists of Hongkong in the Philippine mining industry.

The Headwaters Mining Company (Inc.) was recently organised with a capital stock of P600,000 of which P350,000 is paid up. This company controlled a large group of mines in the most desirable section of the Barugo district and the promise for future development in the area is very bright. Mr. Whitman, the first governor of the Philippines, was a pioneer merchant of the summer capital. He has always taken a lively interest in promotion work affecting the mining industry here and it is largely to his personal efforts that much capital has been attracted.

Nels Peterson, who is a large shareholder in the company and who sold the tenth interest in the Headquarters, is one of the first prospectors who invaded the Baguio country. He has been active in development work and his worth made him a sought fortune. He is now worth several hundred thousand dollars, the result of his activity in the district and his unbounded faith in the future of mining there.

From a recent report of the operations of the Headwaters Company the following excerpt is taken: "No less than four distinct reefs are now being opened up, with a promising outlook as regards values. Reef No. 1 has been stripped of the 'overburden' for some 200 feet and shows a splendid body of ore over 20 feet in width. Tunnel No. 2 has advanced 300 feet, the face showing 4 feet of loose quartz carrying 15 per cent. of gold. A tunnel has been extended 150 feet and has solid quartz in the face 4 feet in width. This also pans free gold. No. 4 is a new reef, running parallel with the 'Big Lead,' which was exposed by a landslide during the recent storm. This discovery is an ore-body composed of quartz and manganese between well defined walls and five feet in width. A general assay of the face gives the value to be \$20.85 gold, per ton."

ANOTHER PEAK ROBBERY.

VALUABLES STOLEN FROM GOUGH HILL ROAD.

Again we have to report another robbery which was perpetrated at the Peak at an early hour this morning. When it was done, it is known best to those who are concerned in what we may call a transaction.

Although the police, as usual, are very reticent in regard to this matter, our representatives managed to gain a few facts. Whether they will "pan out" is doubtful.

The story that we have heard, in fact the story that we have been told by certain authorities, is something like this: At about nine o'clock this morning somebody (whose name and personality, to say nothing of the fingerprints) managed to rob a house at 510, Gough Hill Road, the Peak.

As we said before, the man, or as the police suggests, there were two or three in the game, climbed into the bedroom. For Hongkong they got a pretty fair way. According to the official information the gentleman, who emulated Raffles, took a gold repeating watch, valued at \$80, a sovereign, a gold Chinese and a Japanese coin—total \$140.

The police are on the track of the robbers.

TO BE EXTRADITED.

PRISONER FROM PENANG COMMITTED TO GAOL.

The other day we mentioned in these columns that a man named Lim Chee Sang, alias J. W. Oodson, had been arrested in Hongkong, by Detective Inspector O'Sullivan, on a warrant charging him with the larceny of \$70,000, the property of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (Penang Agency).

Yesterday morning, in the Police Court, the defendant was put upon his trial. Kirke, of the Penang Police Force, identified the accused as the man whom he had known for years.

The magistrate (Mr. J. H. Kemp), after hearing evidence, committed the man to the Victoria Gaol pending the order of the Governor for his extradition.

MARINE COURT.

EXCESS OF PASSENGERS.

In the Marine Court, this morning, before the Hon. Commander Basil Taylor, R.N., Harbour Master, P. C. Grant proceeded against Chang Cheun Yau, a boatman, for carrying five persons in excess of the number allowed by his licence on the 2nd inst.

It was stated by prosecutor that at 4.40 a.m. on the 2nd inst., he saw defendant's boat off the Western Mole, seemingly overloaded with passengers. He went alongside and counted the passengers. There were seventeen on board, including the crew. The licence allowed only twelve.

A fine of \$15 was imposed, in default of payment, 6 weeks' hard labour.

NO LIGHTS.

In the same Court, Lo Kwai and Wong Ming, boatmen, were charged for failing to exhibit the regulation lights whilst under way in the early hours of this morning.

P. C. Jackson, who prosecuted, stated that at 2.15 a.m. to-day, he saw the first defendant's junk sailing off Tai-mai-shui with no masthead light. The stern light was showing. Witness went alongside defendant and asked why he did not carry a light and the latter replied that he had broken his lamp at 1 o'clock. On being asked to be shown the lamp, defendant said it had fallen overboard.

In the case of the second defendant, prosecutor stated that at 1.15 a.m. on the 2nd inst., he saw defendant's junk sailing off Tai-mai-shui with no masthead light. He went alongside and asked the reason for the irregularity, and defendant answered he did not know.

A fine of \$10 was imposed in each case.

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

SWEDISH OFFICERS EXPECTED.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 28th May. The Viceroy has received a telegram from the Ministry of War informing him that certain Swedish military officers will shortly arrive at Canton for a tour of inspection of the Canton Naval College at Whampoa, and asking him to give a fitting reception to the coming visitors.

THE FLOODS.

On the 17th inst., the Central Relief Committee sent some of its members to the district of Kwong Ning with rice to assist the flood sufferers. After they had given away all the rice that they had brought with them they returned to Canton yesterday and reported that the district has badly suffered from the recent disastrous floods. Over two thousand houses have been swept away by the floods, and the number of lives lost is not known. Preparations are being made to proceed once more to that district with a quantity of rice and other articles of necessity to relieve the sufferers.

Expectant Magistrate Fung Yu Mui was yesterday deputed by the Viceroy to the flooded districts along the West River with rice, money and other necessary articles to assist the unfortunate sufferers.

A NEW BANK.

There will shortly be a Chinese Bank open in Canton under the style of the Chinese Commercial Bank, Ltd. The bank is to be capital of \$1,000,000, of which the Canton Nine Charitable Institutions and the Seventy-two Guilds are the founders. The required capital is reported to have been fully subscribed. A suitable site has been selected in Sup Sam Hong Street where a three-storied building will be erected for the Bank's Office.

THE SUNNING RAILWAY.

The celebration of the completion of the Sunning Railway will take place on the 3rd June and the Sunning Railway Company has engaged several flower-boats from Canton to be taken to Kongmoon on the 1st June, where these vessels will be placed at the disposal of the guests who will come from Hongkong to Kongmoon en route to Kung-Yick Fw.

THE RECENT FLOODS.

The Welyuan sent by the Board of Re-organisation to the flooded districts along the West River for the purpose of distributing relief to the sufferers returned yesterday and reported to the Central Relief Committee that he had seen a number of dead bodies floating in the vicinity of Lo Pao Wan in Samshui district and asked the committee to appoint men to the spot to pick up the corpses and bury them.

The 7th party sent by the Central Relief Committee to the flooded districts on the 17th inst. returned to Canton yesterday after distributing the three hundred bags of rice that they had brought with them on board the steamer launch *Po Fw*. This launch will again leave tomorrow with further assistance.

On the 28th inst. the Central Relief Committee despatched the 11th steamer with 600 bags of rice to the district of Kwong Ning.

ROBBERY—CHIEF WANTED.

Li Shai Kwei, a military officer of this city, since being reinstated and permitted to return to Canton, has been ordered by the Viceroy to hunt down the robber chief Luk Lan Ching. Li has been unable to effect the arrest of the bandit.

FLOOD DAMAGE.

A letter from the district of Samshui states that owing to the additional rains during the past week the embankments of Wing Lok Wai gave way for the second time to the extent of one or one hundred cheng and the whole district is now inundated. All paddy and mulberry plants have been considerably damaged.

An Imperial Decree was issued on the 27th inst. appointing Wei Ching Tung, at present Provincial Judge at Canton, to be Kwangsi Provincial Treasurer to replace Yu Shing Kak permitted to resign. Chia Pun Yin, at present Salt Commissioner at Anhui, has been appointed to be Kwangtung Provincial Judge to succeed Wei Ching Tung, transferred.

A TAOTAI'S MURDER.

With reference to the murder of Taotai Lau Si Kee, H.E. Viceroy Chang Jen Chou has notified that the fact that should have been committed in the city of Canton. H.E. has therefore given instructions to the Magistrates of Pan Yu and Namhoi and other officials to hunt down the murderers within a period of ten days. The Pan Yu Magistrate has now offered a reward of \$1,000 for the apprehension of the culprits.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY EARNINGS. The number of passengers carried daily by the Canton-Hankow Railway and the amount collected in fares during the last nine days of the 3rd moon are as follows:—

Number of passengers.	Amount collected.
21st day.....	3,509 \$ 555.65
22nd ".....	2,887 495.40
23rd ".....	2,714 426.95
24th ".....	2,709 478.95
25th ".....	3,335 418.95
26th ".....	3,145 554.75
27th ".....	3,030 529.55
28th ".....	2,923 488.25
Total.....	36,256 \$4,473.80

The total amount realised for the period was \$5,878.68, of which \$7,640.81 was collected from freight on goods carried by the railway.

The grand total of passengers for the 3rd moon was 100,306 and the amount collected in fares and freights was \$1,812.62.

TRIAD SOCIETY MEMBER ARRESTED.

Yesterday, on information received, the police effected the arrest of a man belonging to the Triad Society named Wong Siu Ting residing in the Southern suburb. On his appearance at the Police Court, the man admitted the charge preferred against him, i.e., belonging to an unlawful society.

PROPOSED RAILWAY.

The gentry of the Kah Ying prefecture propose to form a company with a capital of \$1,000,000 to be raised in shares of \$10 each for the building of a railway commencing from Shum Chuen and passing through Tam Shui, to Wei Chow, the district of Ho Lung, Lu Tung, Wei Loy, Po Ning, &c., to the city of Chiu Chow, about 600 li in all. Subscriptions for the proposed line are about to be collected.

H.E. KO YU HIM.

It is learnt that H.E. Ko Yu Him, the Special Imperial Commissioner appointed to conduct negotiations with the Portuguese Government on the question of the delimitation of Macao, will proceed very shortly on board the shallow-draft cruiser *Kiangta*, to Chin Shao, in Heungshan district, as well as Macao, to make a tour of inspection. H.E. Ko's visit to the above-mentioned places will be of an unofficial nature, and he will not call on the Governor of Macao on his arrival at the Portuguese sealer end.

THE SUNNING RAILWAY.

The Taotai for the Development of Native Industries (Chan Mong Tsang) will leave here on the 2nd inst. with suite on board a gunboat for the Sunning district to participate in the celebration of the official opening of the Sunning Railway. Owing to exigencies of business H.E. Viceroy Chang will be unable to take part in the ceremony. His Excellency, however, has deputed Expectant Prefect Hung Hing Fai to act as his representative.

LIKIN COLLECTION.

The collection of Likin dues in Canton during the first ten days of the 4th moon as reported by the Likin officials to the Viceroy was \$5,377.800 taels.

TAOTAI LAU SI KE'S MURDER.

With reference to the murder of the late Taotai Lau Si Kee, a further reward of \$1,000 has been offered by the Canton Brigadier-General Chang Jen Chou for the apprehension of the culprits. The reward is to be paid to the person who brings the culprits to Canton, who was only recently reinstated and permitted to return to Canton, has also been ordered by the Viceroy to use his best endeavours to hunt down the culprits.

TAOTAI OF CONSULARITY.

It is reported that the present Taotai of Consularity (Wong Ping Ping) will shortly leave Canton for Peking and Taotai Li Kah Cheng will be appointed Acting Taotai of Consularity during the former's absence.

H.E. KO YU HIM.

H.E. Ko Yu Him, the Special Imperial Commissioner appointed to conduct negotiations with the Portuguese Government on the delimitation of Macao, accompanied by Commodore Ng Kwang Chung, left here to-day on board the cruiser *Kiangta* for Chin Shao on an unofficial visit.

THE SUNNING RAILWAY.

At 8 a.m. to-day the Taotai for the Development of Native Industries (Chan Mong Tsang), Expectant Prefect Hung Hing Fai and several other officials proceeded on board a gunboat to the Sunning district to take part in the celebration of the Sunning Railway. Several flower-boats have been requisitioned by the Sunning Railway Company and sent to Hongkong and Kongmoon to convey the guests to Sunning for the auspicious occasion. Seven more flower-boats left here this morning with about a hundred persons on board for Sunning for the same purpose. Two theatrical troupes have also been engaged from Canton to give theatrical performances at the two railway termini. The visitors will return to Canton on the 4th inst.

BUREAU OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Since Taotai Im Ku and Taotai Ng Kwong Ki, Senior Deputies of Foreign Affairs to the Viceroy of the Liang Kwang, left Canton in quick succession, H.E. Chang Jen Chou has offered appointments to several officials in the Capital in the hope of filling the vacancies, but His Excellency has not yet succeeded in securing the services of any one of them. H.E. Chang has now sent a telegram to H.E. Yang Shing, formerly Chinese Minister to Germany, who is at present at Peking, offering him the appointment of Deputy of Foreign Affairs to be in charge of the Bureau of Foreign

Affairs in Canton. It is not known whether H.E. Yang will accept the proffered post.

ADMIRAL LI CHUN.

Admiral Li Chun has been away from Canton since the 19th ultimo on a visit to the Paracels Islands. As the revolutionary leader Tam Pook has been brought to Canton from Hunan, Admiral Li Chun's presence is now required here to deal with the case. The Viceroy therefore yesterday wired to Admiral Li asking him to return as quickly as possible.

A MURDERER'S FATE.

Yu Ng, the man who was charged with armed robbery and murder on board a junk plying between Shek Ki and Tou Moon, and recently extradited from Hongkong, was, on the 1st inst., taken out to the execution ground from the Namhoi gaol and beheaded.

THE FLOODS.

The 9th party sent by the Central Relief Committee to the flooded districts to relieve the sufferers with money and rice returned to Canton yesterday from Ying Tak and reported that the floods have almost entirely subsided and that the affected localities will shortly resume their normal aspect. The services of the Central Relief Committee, therefore, are now practically no longer required. A telegram, however, was received from the Magistrate of the Tung Kun district to the effect that his district is still suffering from floods and requesting for a further supply of rice to assist the unfortunate.

FAILURE OF SILK CROP.

Owing to the continuous and heavy rain during last month, and the recent disastrous floods, the second silk crop has been damaged considerably and it is not expected that as good a crop as the preceding one will be gathered.

THE CRUSADE AGAINST OPIUM.

The new Canton Tartar General Tsang Ki appears to be in real earnest and has shown great activity in the suppression of opium-smoking. He has given instructions in relation to the drug in a very commendable manner. All Mauchuria and Banner people are required to each secure five men to sign a bond against opium smoking. In the case of a smoker, the five guarantors have to sign a bond that the smoker will get rid of the habit within a specified period of time.

OUTRAGE BY ROBBERIES.

At about 9 p.m. on the 28th ultimo a gang of about two hundred robbers, under the leadership of the robber chief Ng Poi, attacked the village of Wong Ma Chuen in Shun Tak district, where they ransacked thirty-four houses in all and carried away a large quantity of booty to the value of about \$10,000. The local militia station was destroyed by the desperadoes, two soldiers being killed, while three others fell victims during the engagement between the brigands and the local police. The brigands kidnapped seventeen persons, whose whereabouts are not known at present. The cause of the outrage have now reported the case to the Canton officials.

A CHEMIST'S SORROW.

On the 29th ultimo, another robbery was committed shortly after 8 p.m. in a village called "Tao-to-Namhoi," where a chemist's establishment was entered and ransacked by about forty robbers. All the valuable articles they could lay their hands on were taken away and in addition to this, the master of the shop was kidnapped. The method employed by the robbers to enter the premises was to pass off under the guise of soldiers.

GAMBLING MONOPOLY RESUMED.

The Board of Re-organisation has now granted Mr. Yik Kat Hong permission to continue the gambling monopoly of "Pa Piu" and "Shan Piu" lotteries in the whole of Kwangtung province for a further period of six years at an annual rental of \$1,000,000 plus a royalty of 600,000 taels to the Canton Arsenal, and \$120,000 to the Canton Government Cement Works.

UNREST IN KWANTUNG.

On the 30th ultimo, the Canton Brigadier-General Wu proceeded to Wei-chow with a detachment of troops on board the gunboats *Pao Hung* and *Hoi Yin* with a view to keeping a lookout on the movements of the revolutionists, who are alleged to be banking attempts to come over to Kwangtung from Hunan to the number of two or three thousand. Advice to the same effect has reached Canton and the authorities have given instructions to all military officials to take precautions against the perpetration of any outrage. In reference to yesterday's report that the Viceroy has wired urging Admiral Li Chun to return as quickly as possible from the Paracels Islands, it is now learnt that the Viceroy's doing so is to obtain Admiral Li Chun's services in case they are urgently required in anticipation of any disturbances that may possibly arise.

THE SUNNING RAILWAY.

The amount of the daily collection in fares and freight by the Sunning Railway during the 3rd moon is as follows:—

1st day \$641.94	2nd day \$912.54	3rd day \$629.18	4th day \$784.98	5th day \$671.35	6th day \$505.12	7th day \$510.60	8th day \$559.45	9th day \$777.07	10th day \$732.50	11th day \$687.74	12th day \$723.05	13th day \$518.32	14th day \$501.50	15th day \$510.31	16th day \$501.39	17th day \$500.07	18th day \$563.80	19th day \$488.15	20th day \$519.60	21st day \$528.10	22nd day \$571.72	23rd day \$584.80	24th day \$507.16	25th day \$591.19	26th day \$556.83	27th day \$585.11	28th day \$578.06	29th day \$567.04
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The total amount realised in that month was \$20,664.54.

COMMERCIAL.

FREIGHT MARKET.

Messrs. Lamke and Rogge write in their freight circular of 29th May:—

The freight market has shown no improvement since our last report dated 15th inst. Freight rates have not been so numerous as hitherto, and rates all round point to a downward tendency.

The Saigon to Hongkong market which showed signs of improvement a fortnight ago has practically collapsed. From the list of fixtures overleaf it will be seen that only two lines have been settled, both at miserable rates.

Three boats have been fixed from Saigon to Philippines at various rates. There are no further orders to report.

Saigon to Java: The orders placed on this market when last wrote, have been executed elsewhere at rates which can hardly show a profit.

The same remark applies to the inquiries for tonnage from Saigon to Japan. Charterers meeting with no response here were successful in obtaining three Japanese vessels at rates averaging 18 sen per picul to Yokohama, and one to Nijigata.

Telegraphic advices from the North indicate a dull market there with but few inquiries. There are no Yangtze settlements to report, and only two steamers have been fixed from Newchwang to Canton at 30 and 35 cents for part cargoes.

\$100 to \$200 from Moji to Hongkong, and \$12.50 to \$20.00 from Canton to Hongkong who have had their offers refused by owners at Home of the former rates have met with no difficulty in getting them accepted by Japanese owners at \$200.

The following coal fixtures are also reported: From Hongkong to Canton at \$1.75, from Kuchin to Hongkong \$2.10, from Hongkong to Palo Brani and Penang \$2.75.

Time charter. The *Amigo* has again been fixed for a further period of 1 month option, 1 month at \$7.00 for the entire trade.

Sail Tonnage Loading or to Load—For Baltimore and New York—Brit. bark *Alider*, 2,942 tons net reg., arrived May 2nd.

Sail Tonnage Disengaged:—None.

Departure of Sailing:—None.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Messrs. Erich Georg & Co. write in their Weekly Share List as follows last Saturday:—

A fair business has been transacted in shares during the week under review, and but for the unwillingness of holders to meet buyers, transactions would have been on a larger scale. However, more activity has been shown all round and most stocks have ruled firm. The sterling market of exchange on London closes at 9 5/16, while rates on Shanghai are 11 7/8 for a Bank T/T, and 11 7/8 for a three days' sight Private Draft. Bar silver in London is quoted 45 1/16, and Consols 85 3/16. The Bank of England's rate of discount remains 2 1/2 per cent., while the private market rate of discount is 1 1/2 per cent.

Bank Shares.—Hongkong and Shanghai sold at \$90, \$95, \$98 and \$98, and have buyers at the highest rate; the London rate is 7 1/8, in Shanghai shares sold at \$1,000, with an exchange of 7 1/8. Nationals are unchanged.

Marine Insurance Shares.—Unions are steady at \$845, Canton sold at \$107, and have further sellers at 195. Other stocks under this heading are unchanged.

Fire Insurance Shares.—Hongkong have been done and more shares can be placed at \$145. Chinas continue in demand at \$100, but more seem to be available, except at an advance of say \$2 per share.

Shipping Shares.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats have improved to buyers at \$15. Indo-China are also firmer, and buyers can be found at \$7 1/2; the Shanghai rate is up to 11 1/2, while the London rates are unchanged. China and Manila, as well as

Douglases, are unchanged. Star Ferries have improved to buyers at \$2 for old, and \$16 for new shares. Shell Transporters, in sympathy with a London quotation of 61 1/2, 92 1/2, 100 shares, are wanted locally at 62 1/2, up for Bearer scrip. Union Waterboats have buyers at \$10.

Refineries.—China Sugars sold in small parcels at \$145, but the market closed slightly quieter, with a few shares offering. Lurons are utterly neglected at \$15.

Mining Shares.—Charbonnages are unchanged. Raubs sold at \$9 and \$9, and have buyers at the higher figure; a telegram from the mine reports a crushing of 5,979 tons of ore, yielding 1,302 ounces of smelted gold; besides which 92 ounces of gold have been won by the cyanide process. Chinese Engineering and Mining Company's shares are wanted at \$11 1/2; the total output of the Company's three mines for the week ended 8th inst. amounted to 28,383 tons of coal, and the sales during the same period to 25,441 tons.

Docks, Wharves, Godowns, &c.—A very fair amount of business has been done in Hongkong and Whampoa Docks of late, ranging between \$65 and \$10, the stock closing with few shares offering at \$68. Geo. Fenwick's have sold at \$11. New Army Docks shares are firm at \$9. The 17th ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders will be held at Amoy to-day. The report states that the net earnings of the dock for 1908 amounted to \$18,291.54 (against \$17,601.76 for 1907), and after deducting salaries, (\$1,125.11), interest (\$1,078.07), general charges (\$1,137.45), auditor's fees (\$100) ground rent (\$34.41), and repairs (\$7,085.51), there remains a balance of credit of working account of \$11,871.97 (against \$11,666.08 as per last report) to which has to be added the balance of \$1,111.91 brought forward from 1907, making a total of \$13,090.88, which it is proposed to deal with as follows: to write off Amoy Dock \$1

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. KADOORIN & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	PAID UP.	RESERVE.	AT WORKING ACCOUNT.	LAST DIVIDEND.	APPROXIMATE QUOTATION BASED ON LAST YEAR'S DIV.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	120,000	\$125	\$125	\$1,500,000	\$2,000,000	Final of £2 and bonus of 5/- for 1908 @ ex 1/8 = \$16.024	5 1/2 %	\$98 1/2 buyers London 291
National Bank of China, Limited	99,925	£7	£6	\$4,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$2 (London 3/6) for 1909	...	\$8 1/2
MARINE INSURANCES.								
Ganton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,500,000	none	\$14 for 1907	7 1/2 %	\$105 sellers
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	\$1,500,000	Tls. 160,512	Interim of 7/6 for 1908	5 1/2 %	Tls. 104 buyers
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	12,400	\$350	\$100	\$1,500,000	\$2,000,000	Final of \$17 making \$47 for 1907 and interim of \$30 for 1908	5 1/2 %	\$84 1/2
Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited	12,000	\$100	\$50	\$1,500,000	\$707,637	\$12 and bonus \$3 for 1907	7 1/2 %	\$22 1/2 buyers
FIRE INSURANCES.								
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,500,000	\$375,541	\$6 and bonus \$2 for 1907	7 1/2 %	\$110 buyers
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,500,000	\$375,541	\$27 for 1907	8 %	\$34 1/2
SHIPPING.								
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	30,000	\$25	\$15	\$7,000	\$1,000,000	\$1 for 1906	...	\$11 sellers
Qinghai Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$50	\$2,000,000	Nil	2 1/2 for year ending 30.6.1908	7 %	\$36
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.	80,000	\$75	\$15	\$7,000	\$20,370	Final of 12 making \$24 for 1908	7 1/2 %	\$32 1/2 buyers
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (Preferred)	60,000	£5	£5	\$1,500,000	£1,755	{6/- for 1907 on Preference shares only @ ex 1/9 12/16 = \$3.154	4 %	\$74 buyers
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (Deferred)	60,000	£5	£5	\$1,500,000	£1,755	Final of Tls. 12 making Tls. 3 1/2 for 1908	7 1/2 %	Tls. 53 1/2 buyers
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited (Preference)	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	\$1,500,000	Tls. 14,510	Second interim of 1/- for a/c 1908	4 %	Tls. 51 1/2 buyers
"Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited	1,000,000	£1	£1	\$1,500,000	\$3,121	{£1.00 for year ending 10.4.1909 @ \$0.50	3 1/2 %	\$16 ex div. \$15 1/2 ex div.
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$5	\$1,500,000	Tls. 2,215	Final of Tls. 14 making Tls. 2 1/2 for 1908	11 %	Tls. 45 sales
REFINERIES.								
Taku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	10,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	\$1,500,000	Dr. \$5,858	\$5 for year ending 31.12.08	3 1/2 %	\$74 1/2 sellers
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	\$50	\$1,500,000	Dr. \$135,811	\$3 for 1907 Tls. 3 1/2 for year ending 31.8.08	...	\$15 sellers Tls. 290 buyers
Luxon Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	\$100	\$50	\$1,500,000	Dr. \$135,811	\$3 for 1907 Tls. 3 1/2 for year ending 31.8.08	...	\$15 sellers Tls. 290 buyers
MINING.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.	1,000,000	£1	£1	\$1,500,000	£1,556	Interim of 1/6 (coupon No. 12) for year ending 30.6.09	7 %	Tls. 18 1/2 buyers
Ruby Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	150,000	£1	£1	\$1,500,000	Dr. £4,191	No. 12 of 1/- = 48 cents	...	\$9 1/2 sellers
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Swire (G.S.) & Co., Limited	18,000	\$25	\$25	\$1,500,000	Dr. \$7,411	\$1.75 for year ending 31.12.08	...	\$12
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$50	\$50	\$1,500,000	\$20,102	Final of \$14 making \$31 for 1907	...	\$59 ex. and b.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.	50,000	\$50	\$50	\$1,500,000	\$387,78	Final of \$4 making \$8 for 1908	11 1/2 %	\$68 sellers
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.	55,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	\$1,500,000	Tls. 33,742	Interim of Tls. 2 1/2 for 6 months ending 31st October, 1908	6 %	Tls. 85 sales
Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Company, Limited	36,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	\$1,500,000	Tls. 22,818	Final of Tls. 6 making Tls. 10 for 1908	6 %	Tls. 160 buyers
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.								
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.	25,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	\$1,500,000	Tls. 4,134	Tls. 6 for year ending 30.6.09	5 1/2 %	Tls. 104 buyers
Star House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	30,000	\$25	\$25	\$1,500,000	Dr. \$24,611	\$2 1/2 for year ending 30.6.07	...	\$19 buyers
Central Stores, Limited	10,000	\$50	\$50	\$1,500,000	\$20,102	\$1.20 on old and 60 cents on first new issue	...	\$71 ex. n.d. \$40 ex. new
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	8,000	\$50	\$50	\$1,500,000	\$20,102	Final of \$3 making \$6 for 1908	6 1/2 %	\$110 buyers
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.	50,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,500,000	\$26,475	Final of \$3 1/2 making \$7 for 1908	6 1/2 %	\$9 1/2 buyers
Comptons Estate & Finance Company, Limited	150,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,500,000	\$5,486	60 cents for 1908	5 %	\$30 buyers
Johnson Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	\$50	\$50	\$1,500,000	\$278	\$1 1/2 for 1908	...	\$120
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	\$1,500,000	Tls. 142,404	Final of Tls. 3 and bonus of Tls. 2 making Tls. 8 for 1908	6 1/2 %	\$46 sales
East Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	\$50	\$50	\$1,500,000	\$1,968	Final of \$2 making \$4 for 1908	8 1/2 %	\$120
COTTON MILLS.								
Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	\$1,500,000	Tls. 8,320	Tls. 5 for year ended 31.10.1908	4 1/2 %	Tls. 120 buyers
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	125,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,500,000	\$5,553	50 cents for year ending 31.7.08	6 %	\$8 1/2 sales
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	\$1,500,000	Tls. 8,372	Tls. 6 for year ending 30.9.08 (8%)	...	Tls. 89 sellers
Hongkong Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	\$1,500,000	Tls. 4,821	Tls. 4 for 1908	...	Tls. 110 sellers
Hongkong Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	\$1,500,000	Tls. 15,912	Tls. 50 for 1906	...	Tls. 400 sellers
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Sell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	12 1/2	12 1/2	\$1,500,000	£648	1/10th per share for 1907 = 1.037	10 %	\$10 1/2
China-Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	\$12	\$12	\$1,500,000	£111	\$1.20 or 1908	9 %	\$123 buyers
China Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,500,000	\$61,138	50 cents for year ended 28.2.06	8 1/2 %	\$9 1/2 buyers
China Do. special shares	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,500,000	\$61,138	80 cents for 1908	7 1/2 %	\$16 1/2 buyers
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ltd.	125,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,500,000	\$4,407	\$1.30 for year ending 31.7.08	10 1/2 %	\$9 sales
Yuen Fong Company, Limited	40,000	\$7 1/2	\$7 1/2	\$1,500,000	\$48	Final of 50 cents making 90 cents for 1908	8 %	\$21 buyers
Yuen Fong Cement Company, Limited	400,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,500,000	\$3,755	75 cents for 9 months ending 31.12.07	9 1/2 %	\$19 buyers
Yuen Fong & Co., Limited	12,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,500,000	\$251	\$2 for year ending 29.2.09	6 1/2 %	\$155 sellers
Tai & Hoi, Limited	21,000	\$20	\$20	\$1,500,000	\$18,717	\$1 and bonus 20 cts. for year ending 29.2.09	8 1/2 %	\$4
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,500,000	\$5,195	Final of \$15 per share making \$19 for 1908	...	Tls. 1,140 ex. b.
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	1,000	\$25	\$25	\$1,500,000	\$7,616	Final of \$1 per share making \$2 for 1908	...	\$13 ex div. b.
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	60,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,500,000	\$7,190	1st Quarterly div. of Tls. 12 1/2 for account 1909	6 %	\$2 ex div. b.
Waischappel Tel. Mjn., Bosch. on Landbouwerij	25,000	Ga. 100	Ga. 100	\$1,500,000	Tls. 210, 22	80 cents on fully paid shares and 8 cents on 1/- paid shares for year ending 30.4.09	3 %	\$8
Peak Tramways Company, Limited	25,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,500,000	\$1,201	None	...	Tls. 112 1/2 b.
Peak Tramways Company (new)	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,500,000	\$1,201	Final of Tls. 4 making Tls. 7 1/2 for 1907	6 1/2 %	Tls. 121 1/2 b.
Philippine Company, Limited	75,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,500,000	\$1,201	Final of Tls. 3 making Tls. 8 for 1908	4 1/2 %	Tls. 415 buyers
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited	84,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	\$1,500,000	Tls. 5,250	Final of 3/- making 4/- for 1908	...	\$24
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 30	Tls. 30	\$1,500,000	Dr. \$15,602	40 cents for year ending 31.5.08	8 %	Tls. 04 buyers
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	16,350	£20	£20	\$1,500,000	Tls. 23,038	Tls. 6 1/2 for year ending 30.4.07	5 %	\$10 1/2 buyers
South China Morning Post, Limited	6,000	\$25	\$25	\$1,500,000	\$172	60 cents for year ending 31.12.03	6 1/2 %	\$13 buyers
China Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	\$5	\$5	\$1,500,000	\$1,300	100 Founders shares for yr. end. 31.5.07	6 1/2 %	\$8.70 ex div.
London Waterworks Company, Limited	1,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	\$1,500,000	\$2,613	Final of 30 cents for 1908	...	\$4 sales
Jalco Waterboat Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,500,000	\$2,613	Final of 30 cts. making 80 cts. for the year ended 30th June, 1906	...	\$4 sales
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,500,000	\$2,613	Final of 30 cts. making 80 cts. for the year ended 30th June, 1906	...	\$4 sales
Watson, (A.S.) & Co., Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,500,000	\$2,613	Final of 30 cts. making 80 cts. for the year ended 30th June, 1906	...	\$4 sales
William Powell, Limited	15,000	\$7	\$7	\$1,500,000	\$2,613	Final of 30 cts. making 80 cts. for the year ended 30th June, 1906	...	\$4 sales

*These shares are entitled to half of the profits.

THE Japanese Imperial House has received a beautiful photograph album from his Majesty the Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria.

THE Japan Petroleum Company, of Nagasaki, Niigata prefecture, has reduced the price of its oil by 5 sen per case from the 18th ult.

THE Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce has presented a memorial to the Throne on the subject of afforestation in China.

PRINCE CHING has instructed the Waiwupurto be firm in all questions relating to the Yenchih department, in Manchuria, the Macao Boundary and the Praia Island.

A STRIKE of dockies is in progress at Barrack-pore, where the Municipality has levied a license-fee of one rupee per month on every dockie, payment of six months' fee to be made in advance.

THE General Agent of the Shanghai Sunnata Tobacco Company, Limited, has received the following telegraphic advice from the Dai Matsushige, Amstterdam:—"Sold 378 sales tobacco at Guilders 1.12."

It is intended by the Prince Regent that any member of the Waiwupurto who may commit errors in the reception of foreign Ministers, or envoys, should be referred to this Ministry for determination of a penalty.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Capt. A. A. H. Milroy to be a member of the Pioneering Board during the absence on leave of Capt. T. P. Hall or until further notice, with effect from the 28th ult.

THE Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd., kindly informs us that the total output of the Company's three mines for the week ending May 15, 1909, amounted to 12,930.36 tons and the sales during that period to 27,786.66 tons.

It is stated that a College of Engineering recently established at Port Arthur by the Government of Kwangtung is to be opened shortly. The building—a three-story brick structure—of the former Russian naval barracks has been utilized for the college, and is large enough to accommodate some thousands of students.

It is notified that all boats and vessels are to keep to the Northward of the inner line of mooring buoys opposite H. M. Dockyard, Victoria, when the red flag is hoisted on the mast at the north-west extreme of the Dockyard Basin. This will denote that one of H. M. ships is being moved in or out of the basin.

His Excellency the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King, to the following Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council:—An Ordinance to amend the Code of Civil Procedure; and an Ordinance to amend the Public Health and Buildings Ordinances 1903-1908.

THE Yachuanpu in reporting on the suggestion made by the Governor of Shansi and a Censor, that charges for transporting coal should be reduced, considers that the duties on coal are too heavy and unduly onerous, and that consequently interfere with its free transportation. The Ministry further advises that these duties be greatly remitted or reduced.

AN innovation which will prove of considerable value is being carried out by the Shanghai Municipal Police. Sentry boxes equipped with electric light and telephones, from where a constable could secure assistance in case of trouble, without leaving his post, are to be erected in various parts of the Settlement. The first of these has just been erected at the corner of Pekin and Shansie Roads.

A VERY bad drowning fatality occurred in Hankow during the latter part of last week. While the launch of the Japanese cruiser *Akashi* was bringing some officers from the shore and as she came alongside the vessel, the assistant ladder-boy missed his footing and fell into the river. He was not seen to rise again and the body has not been recovered.

THE Anti-Opium Commissioners in Peking, Prince Kung and Grand Councilor Lu Ch'uan-fu, attribute the laxity of the anti-opium campaign in the provinces to the negligence of the high officials, twelve of whom have been added to the list of opium smokers, and the Commissioners have now made up their minds whether to "summon" these opium victims to the capital to be examined or to compel their resignation from office.

SOME cyclists in Singapore are a terrible nuisance. But there are others! The youths of Bangkok are now taking to the habit of attaching to their bikes all sorts of noisemakers, and of horns, calculated to strike terror into pedestrians, especially into women and children. They glide silently on, and then the unearthly noise which they jerk out of the instrument very often causes ladies to scream with fright thinking that some ponderous motor is upon them.

LAST Tuesday morning, in the Police Court, Inspector Collett summoned a Chinaman for keeping dogs without licences. It was explained that the defendant had a licence to keep two dogs, but four were found in his premises. A fine of \$10 was imposed. More prosecutions of this kind would not only help to increase the Government's purse, but would tend to rid the Colony of a few animals which roam the streets, a danger to pedestrians. Wanchai might take the hint.

It is notified in the Gazette that in future permission will not be given to trading companies to make use on registration of the prefix "Imperial" or other title suggesting Royal patronage. Any application shall have some real Imperial or Crown connection which gives a well-founded claim to recognition or unless it can be shown on clear evidence that there is a long bona fide user and the same is so used as not to convey any suggestion of Government patronage or support.

DETECTIVE Sergeant Grant prosecuted a man, whom he termed "a bad character," before Mr. F. A. Haselard, last Tuesday, for stealing a tin box containing jewellery and money worth \$61 from a house in Hollywood Road. The defendant, alleged that the whole thing was a conspiracy to get him into a fix. The sergeant asked for a week's adjournment. He added that the defendant was a "bad character." He had previously been convicted of being a Triad Society man. On this occasion he was being kept by friends in Hollywood Road, and in March last, so it was alleged, he disappeared with the goods. The adjournment was granted.

TWO well-known police officers (Inspector Withers and Sgt. E. Fox) called for the home-land last Saturday afternoon, by the P. and O. steamer *Oceanic*, on a long vacation, which had been well earned. They were whisked off by a large number of friends and acquaintances. On Friday night Inspector Withers was made the recipient of a handsome gold watch, which was presented to him by the members of the Police Recreation Club in recognition of his services as the secretary of the club since its inception some five or six years ago. The presentation was made by the assistant superintendent of police, Mr. F. J. Wodehouse.

THE Chinese cruisers *Hai Chi* and *Hai Yang*, having completed their southern tour, left for Saigon, at 6 1/2 a.m. on 28th ult.

It is proposed to establish an Anglo-German Bank which shall supply China with whatever money she may require in the way of loans.

THE historic Bridge of Spain, at Manila, will shortly be demolished and a much larger structure erected in its stead, at a cost of 400,000 pesos.

THE Ocean Steamship line, like the P. and O., has arranged for its boats to call at Port Swettenham on the homeward voyage and carry rubber at a reduced freight.

TWO men, Martin Butsberg and Felen Khuya, stowaways, arriving here on board the steamer *Tosa Maru* yesterday from Shanghai, were fined \$25 apiece in the Police Court to-day.

WE have received from the Dairy Farm Company a sample pat of the Company's special "Honeyuckle" brand butter. The article is of excellent quality which is its own best recommendation to patrons of the Company's excellent products.

COUNT Yanagisawa, a well-known authority on the science of statistics, has been appointed to represent the Japanese Government at an International Conference on Statistics to be held in Paris from 5th to 12th next. The Count will travel to Europe by the Siberian Railway.

TOKIO newspapers state that the Tokio Spinning Company has obtained through the agency of Messrs. Sale, Frasier & Co. a foreign loan of ¥1,000,000 at 6 1/2 per cent. interest, the loan being guaranteed by the Hundredth Bank, and its proceeds to be applied to the purchase of new machinery.

PROFESSOR Takano Iwasaburo, of the College of Law in the Tokyo Imperial University, has been appointed to visit Europe and America on official business. Messrs. Kaito Jitsunaka and Yamamoto Miyeno, instructors in the Yamaguchi Higher Commercial School, have been appointed to visit China.

THE Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the fund of the hospitals:

Patent Li Su Sak \$ 10
Do. Lam Lok Sam 10
Do. Chan Shek Pang 10
Do. Leung A Mul 7

THE steamship *Amur*, one of the two Russian steamers recently sold under attachment in Nagasaki harbour, has been re-purchased by Count Kaitohling of Russia from Mr. Koga of Nagasaki, to whom the vessel fell at the public auction, and has been named the *Georgi*. She is to be engaged in the 17th ultimo for the Siberian coasting service.

WE have received from the office of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha particulars of special summer excursions to Japan ports and back, which will be open to the public from the 1st inst. to the 31st August. The circular contains a schedule of all of the Company's various vessels and gives a list of special reduced tickets which will hold good for the specified period. Special facilities in the way of overland travelling are to be provided.

A SEOUL telegram of the 20th ultimo to the *Manchurian* states that Mr. Fujimura Eisuke, son of Mr. Fujimura Toyonaka, of Yamaguchi Prefecture, who was killed by insurgents at a place near Kwangju, in 1906, has instituted an action at the Seoul Chibo Saibanho against the Korean Government, claiming compensation to the amount of ¥60,000. The case is attracting great attention as it will set a precedent for Japanese who have suffered through the insurgents.

ANOTHER Chinese woman, Chan Yik (30) of 37, Lower Lascar Row has been arrested on a charge of ill-treating her servant girl, aged about eleven years. It was alleged that the cruelty consisted of beating the girl with bamboo. The accused was arraigned on a charge of alleged assault committed on divers dates, between 1st May and 1st June. She pleaded not guilty and was remanded.

Mails.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

BREMEN.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINES.

For	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
KUDAT and SANDAKAN	"BOHMO" Capt. F. Sembill	WEDNESDAY, 9th June, Noon.
NAPLES, GENOA, ALGIERS, GIBRALTAR, SOUTHAMPTON, ANTWERP and HAMBURG	"LUTZOW" Capt. C. Dewers	WEDNESDAY, 16th June, Noon.
SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, and YOKOHAMA	"YORCK" Capt. J. Randermann	About THURSDAY, 17th June.
MANILA, YAP, NEWGUINEA, BRISBANE, SYDNEY and MELBOURNE	"PRINZ WALDEMAR" Capt. F. Iscke	FRIDAY, 18th June, 10 A.M.
YOKOHAMA and KOBE	"PRINZ SIGISMUND" Capt. D. Lenz	SATURDAY, 19th June.

For further Particulars, apply to

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

MELCHERS & CO.,

GENERAL AGENTS, HONGKONG & CHINA.

Hongkong, 4th June, 1909.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL LINES.

FORTNIGHTLY SERVICE TO and FROM EUROPE via SUEZ CANAL.
TO and FROM JAPAN via SHANGHAI.

For	STEAMERS	CAPTAINS	TO SAIL ON
SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA	TOURANE	Lancelotti	7th June, P.M.
MARSEILLES, VIA PORTS	POLYNESIE	Broc	8th June, at 1 P.M.
SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA	ARMAND BEHIC	Gijonnet	11th June, P.M.
MARSEILLES, VIA PORTS	SYDNEY	Rebuffat	22nd June, at 1 P.M.

Transshipment on the Co's Steamers at Singapore for Batavia; at Colombo for Calcutta, Bombay and Australia; at Port Said for the Levant, Constantinople and Black Sea.

Through Tickets to London via Paris from £27.10 up to £71.10. 30 hours' railway from Marseilles to London.

Interpreters meet passengers at their arrival in Marseilles.

For further particulars, apply to

P. de CHAMPMORIN,

AGENT,

QUEEN'S BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 25th May, 1909.

MESSAGERIES CANTONNAISES.

FRENCH LINE OF STEAMERS BETWEEN HONGKONG, CANTON AND KOUANG-SI.

S.S. "PAUL BRAU," 1,900 tons, 14 knots.

S.S. "CHARLES HARDOUIN," 1,900 tons, 14 knots.

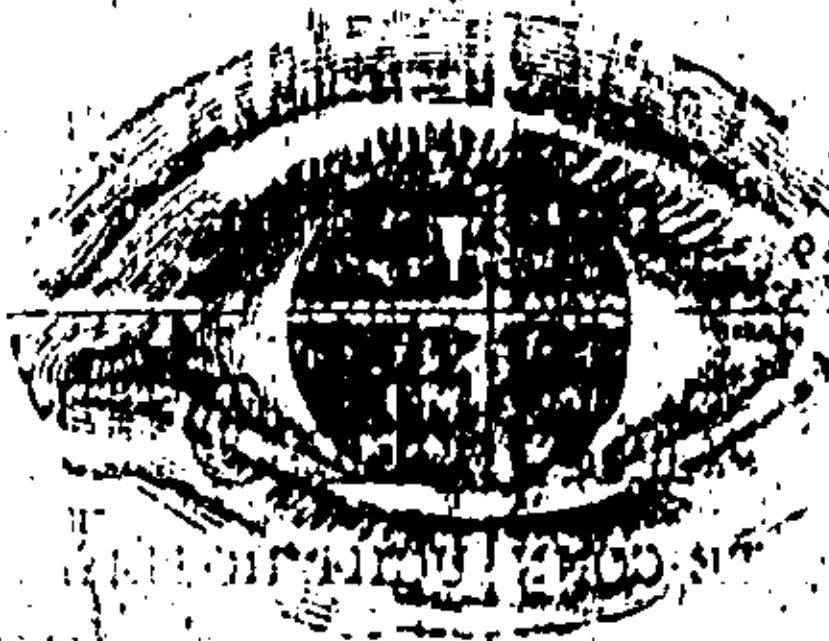
The speediest, most luxuriously appointed and punctual steamers on the line.
Departure from Hongkong at 10 P.M. (Saturdays excepted).
Departure from Canton at 5.15 P.M. (Sundays excepted).These superb steamers carrying the French Mail are fitted throughout with Electric Light and Fans and were specially built for this trade. Excellent cuisine.
The Company's Own Wharf near Wing Lok Street and its berth in Canton opposite Shamoen.

For further particulars, please apply to the COMPANY'S OFFICE at Shamoen, Canton, or to their Agents.

BARRETTO & CO., Hongkong.

Hongkong, 9th October, 1908.

EYES



RIGHT

N. LAZARUS, OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN,
CORNER OF D'AGUILAR STREET AND QUEEN'S ROAD

WILL test your eyes free of charge, and if they are wrong will put them right.

Lenses Ground. All kinds of Repairs. Spectacles for all requirements.
Ask, or write, for Illustrated Booklet on "Defective Sight,"—free.

LONDON,

CALCUTTA,

SHANGHAI,

5, John Street, Bedford Row, W.C.
Hongkong, 1st March 1907.

19, Bentinck Street

155, Nanking Road

Intimations.

THE YOKOHAMA DOCK CO., LTD.

No. 1 DOCK.

Length inside 514 ft. Width of entrance, top 95 ft.; bottom 75 ft. Water on blocks, 37.5 ft. Time to pump out, 4 hours.

No. 2 DOCK.

Length inside, 375 ft. Width of entrance, top 60.5 ft. bottom 45.8 ft. Water on blocks, 36.5 ft. Time to pump out, 3 hours.

THESE DOCKS are conveniently situated in Yokohama harbour and the attention of Captains and Engineers is respectfully called to the advantages offered for Docking and repairing Vessels and Machinery of every description.

The plant and tools are of recent patterns for dealing quickly and cheaply with work and a large stock of material is always at hand, (plates and angles all being tested by Lloyd's surveyors).

Two powerful Twin Screw Tugboats are available for taking Vessels in or out of Dock, and for taking Sailing Vessels in or out of the bay. The floating derrick is capable of lifting 35 tons.

Steam Launches of Steel or Wood, Lighters, Steel Buildings and Roofs, Bridge Work, and all kinds of Machinery are made on the premises.

Tenders will be made up when required and the workmanship and material will be guaranteed.

The cost of Docking, and repair work, will be found to compare favourably with that of any port in the world.

Telephone: Nos. 376, 506, or 681.

Telegrams, "Dock, Yokohama," Codes A. B. O. 4th and 5th Edt.

Liebers, Scotts,

A. I. and Watkins.

Yokohama, May 23rd, 1905.

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME TABLE

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
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Entertainment.

Powell's

Furnishing Department

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

IN OUR SHOW ROOMS

ON THE FIRST FLOOR
CARD TABLES

2ft. 6in. x 2ft. 6in. from \$10

AND 3ft. x 3ft. from \$21.

COVERED GREEN or RED BAIZE.

ENVELOPE FOLDING
CARD TABLES

from \$21.50, covered in BAIZE,

IMITATION LEATHER OR

REAL SKIN IN ALL COLORS

SMOKERS' CABINETS

in dainty and artistic designs.

FILLED with COPPER and

SILK PANELS, WITH KEYS

TO ALL CUPBOARDS AND

DRAWERS

\$15, \$18.50 AND \$21.50

LADIES' DESKS

AND BUREAUS

in ENGLISH and

AMERICAN STYLE

from \$27.50 to \$65.00

REVOLVING BOOKCASES

FINISHED IN

NATURAL TEAK OR TO

IMITATE ALL WOODS

PEDESTALS IN

VARIOUS SIZES AND STYLE,

READY FOR INSPECTION

CARVED WHATNOTS

Both ordinary and

CORNED SHAPES

For BRIC-A-BRAC

ALL ARTICLES CHEERFULLY SHOWN

WITH NO OBLIGATION TO PURCHASE

POWELL'S

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

and 28, Queen's Road.

June 4th 1909.

CURIOUS CAPTURE BY A FISHERMAN.

EXPLOSIVES IN THE SEA.

Sunken mines are still occasionally found off these coasts, but it is not often that cases of explosives are recovered from the deep, remarks the *Japan Chronicle*. A fisherman named Kanemasa, forakichi, or Nishi-gocho, Minami-batago-cho, Sakai, and his brother Yasukichi have just made a capture of this nature. At midnight on the 19th ultimo the two brothers were drawing their net from the sea at a point about a mile and a half south of Osaka harbour off Sakai, when they were astonished to see entangled in the meshes a case containing a dozen objects shaped like gushells. Both men were almost overcome with panic and trembled like leaves for a few moments, but finally they recovered sufficiently to wrap the explosive objects in some straw matting. In the morning they reported their find to the Sakai police station. The information was immediately dispatched to the Central police of Osaka. A gunpowder manufacturer was summoned and was sent to the Sakai office to give his opinion as to the treatment to be accorded the explosive, as well as its degree of danger. After an examination the expert said he had never seen gunpowder cases like those before him, though the contents were undoubtedly an explosive of some sort. Thereupon the officials became more nervous than ever, and none of them would dare to lay his hands on the shells. The chief officer was greatly embarrassed but eventually one of the men was prevailed upon to gently deposit the strange objects in an out-of-the-way corner of the police-station. On Friday morning an official of the prefectural office, together with Major Komoto, of the Military Arsenal, were to make a detailed inspection of the shells. It is thought that other finds of a similar nature will be found near the spot where the case was fished up.

HOLLAND'S DYNASTY.

THE FOUNDATION OF A THRONE

The happy realisation of Queen Wilhelmina's hopes saves half a dynasty and the whole of a throne!

This may seem a curious way of epitomising a situation which has been causing as much anxiety in Holland as a similar one did now nearly 29 years ago, when the Queen herself was born. The offspring of the second marriage of King William III, she came on the scene to outlive two stepbrothers, sickly young men, who were marked down for death before reaching mature years. She was Holland's hope, then, as her daughter is Holland's hope to-day.

The Prince of Orange, who quarrelled with his father, and left Holland never to return during King William's lifetime, and Prince Alexander, both died while Wilhelmina was a child. Although a female, the succession to the Dutch throne, granted to the successors of William I, by the Constitution of 1815, was hers, with the concurrence of the States General, and, as the nomination of her successor is in the hands of the sovereign, subject to the approval of Parliament, there is every prospect that the daughter of Queen Wilhelmina and Prince Heinrich, whose birth we announce to-day, will in due time rule over the Low Countries.

A NEW LINE.

With the birth of a child the house of Orange Nassau loses half its name. The Prince Consort becomes the head of a new dynasty which will derive its name from him, though the title of Prince of Orange would be conferred on a Dutch prince just as that of Prince of Wales is on the heir-apparent to the British throne.

There has been some talk at the Hague about passing a special Act of Parliament to establish Queen Wilhelmina as head of the dynasty and secure the retention of the bygone and Nassau after the title of Orange, but in reality the Dutch people are more concerned in the perpetuation of the house of Orange than of its annex, for it has given to them four monarchs since the reconstruction of Holland into a kingdom by the Congress of Vienna.

William I 1815
William II 1840
William III 1849
Wilhelmina 1890

It was said by a writer some years ago that the last happy day the Dutch people spent was in 1874, when King William III. celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of his accession to the throne surrounded by Queen Sophie, the Prince of Orange, and Prince Alexander. Three years later the Queen died, their two sons were stricken with illness which rendered their succession remote. This fact had something to do with the late King's marriage to Princess Emma of Waldeck-Pyrmont, a sister of the Duchess of Albany, in 1879—a function which the heir-apparent, having quarrelled with his father, did not attend. The birth of Wilhelmina in the following year must have been a happy day for the Dutch people, though one can understand that there were many regrets that it was not a boy to continue a family which the Almanach de Gotha reminds us dates from the twelfth century, and which became extinct on the male side with the death of William III. in 1890.

THE CRADLE OF PEACE.

Another happy day for the Dutch people—this was after the date that the historian quoted above wrote—was when on 7 Feb., 1907, while we in England were still in mourning for the great and good Victoria, the youthful Wilhelmina, just free from the regency of her devoted mother and watchful council of guardians, wedded Prince Heinrich of Mecklenburg-Schwerin. Still, it has been a story of disappointment ever since. Now Holland can acclaim a successor in the House of Orange.

If the happy event which is chronicled to-day had not occurred—and there are universal wishes that the child may live to reign in the child-Queen's capital which may yet become the cradle of the world's peace—the peace of Europe

might have been lost over the struggle for a throne which years ago. The Almanach de Gotha is a perfect hive of genealogical complications; for cadet branches of Oranges and Nassaus are as plentiful as blackberries on a dusty roadside, but the favourite in the event of Queen Wilhelmina dying without issue would seem to be William Ernest, Grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar. There are others. While the Constitution of 1815 assures the succession to the direct heirs of William I., it would certainly appear that the revision in 1887 enables the people to say—"A plague on your houses," because Chapter II. of the Constitution of 1887 says:

The Crown may pass to a female, who, however, will forfeit the Crown if she marry without the consent of the States General. The latter may, in default of any heir, elect a king or queen in an extraordinary combined session of the two Chambers.

THE SUCCESSION.

That the Dutch do not hold themselves bound to a kingdom which may trickle down through a third or fourth generation of Divines Right is shown in the form of the oath to be taken by the sovereign, which is in the nature of a contract between the people and the Crown.

This little paragraph, descriptive of the events which led up to the accession of Queen Wilhelmina, indicates the way that the States keep watch and ward over the Crown in Holland.

September, 1900.—The Prime Minister reported that King William could not perform his royal duties. A bill was passed vesting power, for the time being, in the Council of State. The King growing worse, and the end, to all appearances, rapidly approaching, a further bill was introduced and passed appointing Queen Emma Regent of the Netherlands during the minority of the Princess (Princess Wilhelmina), a council of guardians for the latter being nominated.

23 Nov.—King William died. There being no disability on account of sex to the succession of the House of Orange, which has now been secured, one can only hope that the heir to the Dutch throne will thrive and prosper, so that at the end of Queen Wilhelmina's reign no opportunity will be given for the "influences" of the Powers to have weight on the election of a successor.—*Ernest W. Smith in Morning Leader.*

TWO FEW LADIES.

HOW MR. LLOYD GEORGE MAY AFFECT THE RACE.

Some striking remarks made by Col. William Coates, C.B., in a lecture before the Manchester Medical Society, "On the Duty of the Medical Profession in the Prevention of National Deterioration," have a special interest and significance now in the face of Mr. Lloyd George's "human Budget."

Col. Coates, who delivered his lecture just before the Budget statement, said: "It is a great waste that so many of the finer specimens of our race remain bachelors and fail to fulfil their natural obligations, when there are two millions more women in the country than men. Undoubtedly every bachelor over 30 should be heavily taxed according to his income, and this tax should be used for the benefit of parents producing large families of healthy children. It must be made easier for the best types of parents to bring up their children."

HUMAN STATESMANSHIP.

Well, Mr. Lloyd George has made it easier, and although bachelors are not taxed, he has done something which should commend itself to everyone as a real piece of human statesmanship.

Speaking of the decline in the birth-rate, Col. Coates said that the decline is not due to physical but to moral degeneracy. It is a deliberate act of the will, which is depriving the country of hundreds of thousands of babies annually. It is useless to hide these facts; every practitioner is familiar with them.

SMALL FAMILIES.

Families of one, two, or three children are now the rule, and they are justified on grounds of thrift and health, when really in most cases the mania for pleasure and excitement, unwillingness to suffer inconvenience, and national irresponsibility, are chiefly the causes; this must result in national degradation.

"Our plea is not necessarily for large families—these are sometimes potent as factors in the cause of deterioration—but that to regulate the size of a family by any other means than mutual self-restraint and self-respect must be demoralising and productive of harm."

FURNITURE WAREHOUSE.

LI KWONG LOONG & CO.,

CABINET-MAKERS AND ART DECORATORS, from Shanghai, has re-opened their FURNITURE STORE

No. 39, DES VOGES ROAD CENTRAL. The only shop in Hongkong with this name.

WHERE HIGH-CLASS FURNITURE, of every description can be made to order in any design required.

Have been patronised by the Hongkong Club, Hongkong Hotel, Telegraph Co., Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Firms and other leading Establishments in the Colony, to whom reference can be made as to the Superior Workmanship and Materials of the Furniture, &c., supplied.

Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., write as follows: "We have pleasure in stating that Mr. LI KWONG LOONG furnished the Ashburton to our Dispensary and gave us every satisfaction." (Sd.) A. S. WATSON & CO.

25th May, 1909.

ORDERS punctually attended to, and CHARGES most moderate.

AN INSPECTION INVITED

49, Queen's Road, 1909.

Intimations.

DONE BY TRYING.

Nobody can tell what he can do till he tries. When a thing ought to be done the modern spirit moves us to keep working away at it until it is done. In the face of this idea the "impossible" vanishes. Where there's a will, there's a way. "If we could but rob cod liver oil of its sickening taste and smell and then combine it with two or three other ingredients we should possess the best remedy in the world for certain diseases that are now practically incurable." So said a famous English physician twenty-five years ago. "But," he added, "You can no more turn cod liver oil into a pleasant palatable medicine, than you can turn the Codfish itself into a Bird of Paradise." Yet he lived to admit that in

WAMPOL'S PREPARATION the "impossible" had been accomplished. It is palatable as honey and contains all the nutritive and curative properties of Pure Cod Liver Oil, extracted by us from fresh cod livers, combined with the Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites, Extracts of Malt and Wild Cherry. This remedy is freed from the bad peculiarities Dr. Frothingham so detested, and it is precisely the splendid medicine he wished for. Use it freely and confidently for Anemia, Hysteria, Wasting Complaints, Blood Impurities, Asthma, and Throat and Lung Troubles, Dr. W. B. B. Aikins, F. R. C. P., London, M. D., C. M., Victoria University, M. B., Toronto University, Consulting Physician to Home for Incurables, Physician to Toronto General Hospital, says: "I am much pleased to state that the results from using Wampol's Preparation of Cod Liver Oil have been uniformly satisfactory; it appealed to me as being prepared according to correct scientific principles." It increases the appetite and influences the digestion of food; it is delicious to take, will not disappoint you and is effective from the first dose. "It represents the dawn of progress." At chemists everywhere.

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EUROPEAN, INDIAN AND CHINESE

USEFUL ARTICLES

OF CLOTHING, FANCY GOODS

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AT VERY NORMAL RATES.

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The Latest Style Goods for Present Season Gentlemen's and Children's.

HATS, BONNETS (Hat Flowers), RIBBONS, LACE, BRIDAL VEILS, FANCY DRESS GOODS, MUSLINS, LAWN, NAINSOOKS, SHIRTINGS, ALPACCAS, HOSIERY, ENGLISH AND AMERICAN FOOTWEARS, &c., &c.

Prices and Samples on application.

Best attention to all Coast Port Orders.

Hongkong, 16th April, 1909

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HAS ALWAYS ON HAND

CIGARS, CIGARETTES

AND

TOILET REQUISITES

FOR SALE.

12, D'ARVILLE STREET, HONGKONG.

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HONGKONG AVERAGE MARKET PRICES.

Corrected 5th June, 1909. per 5 Mds.

BUTCHER MEAT.

Beef sirloin & prime cut—Mei Lung Pa B

Comed—Ham Ngau Yuk

Roast—Shu

Breast—Ngau Lam

Soup, Tong Yuk

Steak—Ngau Yuk Pa

Sirloin—Ngau Lau

Santiago—Ngau Yuk Chong

Bullock's Brains—Kow

Tongue fresh—Ngau Li

Comed—Ham Ngau Li

Head—Ngau Tau

Heart—Ngau Sum

Hump, Salt—Ngau Kin

Feet—Ngau Kook

Kidneys—Ngau Yiu

Tail—Ngau Mei

Liver—Ngau Con

Tripe (undressed)—Ngau To

Calves' Head and Feet—Ngau-chai

Shank-keok

Mutton Chop—Yeung Pak Kwai

Leg—Yeung Pak

Shoulder—Yeung Shan

Pigs' Chiddings—Chi chong

Brains—Chi Kow

Feet—Chi Kook

Fry—Chi Chai

Head—Chi Tau

Heart—Chi Sum

Kidneys—Chi Yiu

Liver—Chi Kon

Pork Chop—Chi Pak Kwai

Comed—Ham Chi Yuk

Leg—Chi Pak

Fat or Lard—Chi Yau

Sheep's Head and Feet—Yeung Tau

Kook

Heart—Yeung Sum

Kidneys—Yeung Yiu

Liver—Yeung Con

Sucking Pigs, To Order—Chi Chai

Suet Beef—Sung Ngau Yau

Mutton—Sung Yeung Yau

Veal—Ngau Chai Yuk

Sausages—Ngau Chai Yuk Tong

POULTRY.

Chicken—Kai Chai

Ungons, Large, Small—Sin Kai

Ducks—Ap

Doves—Pan Kan

Eggs, Hen—Kai Tau

Kowls, Canton—Kai

Hallan—Hoi Nam Kai

Geese—Nga

Geese, Wild Shanghai—Shung Hoi Ye

Nga

Musk Deer—Wong Keng

Hare—To Chai

Partridge—Chi Koo

Phasants—Shan Kai

Pigeons, Canton—Pak Kuo

Holow—Holow Pak Kuo

Quail—Um-Chun

Rice Birds—Wo Fa Chuk

Snipe—Sa Chai

Turkeys, Cock—Yo Kai Kung

Hen—Na

Wild Ducks, Shanghai, Sui-ap

Teal, Shanghai, Sui ap Chai

Wild Ducks Canton—Sung Shing Sui

Ap

FRUITS.

Almond—Hung Yau

Apples, (California)—Kam San Ping

Ko—Chao—Tin Chuan Ping

Small—Hoi Tong

Custard—Fai Lai Chai

bananas, fragrant, Canton—Sung Sheng

Hong Chai

(brides), Macao—San Hing Chai

Chestnuts, Chinese—Fong Lai

Carambola—Yeung Tau

Cocanuts—Yeh Tai

Grapes—Sin Tai Tai

Lemons, China—Ning Moong

Amer.—Kum San Ning Moong

Intimation.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
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ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

CHEMISTS

BY APPOINTMENT TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE
GOVERNOR AND HOUSEHOLD.Watson's
HYGIENOL,
AND
BUBONIC PLAGUE!

It has been proved by repeated experiments that "WATSON'S HYGIENOL" is the most potent agent for the destruction of fleas, especially rat fleas.

It has now been proved that Plague is conveyed to human beings by means of fleas from rats which have died of this disease.

All risk of infection can be avoided by washing the floors, etc., or sprinkling where the fleas are likely to be with a dilute solution of "WATSON'S HYGIENOL." A teaspoonful to a pint of water, or a teacupful to three gallons, makes a solution of the strength required for this purpose.

HYGIENOL IS A POWERFUL

DISINFECTANT AND
GERMICIDE

Price per Pint 50 cents.
" " Gallon \$2.00

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED,

HONGKONG DISPENSARY

AND

KOWLOON DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1909.

[28]

NOTICE.

A communication intended for publication in "The HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to The Editor, 1, Lee House Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address.

Ordinary business communications should be addressed to The Manager.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MS., nor return any Contribution.

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The rates per quarter and per annum, proportional to the rates for any period less than one month will be charged as for a full month.

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The postage on the weekly issue to any part of the world is 30 cents per quarter.

Single Copies, Daily, 10 cents. Weekly, twenty-five cents (for cash only).

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 1909.

MACAO OPIUM FARM.

Like Singapore, the short experimental period which the Government of Macao has just had experience of in conducting its own Opium Farm since the rescission last month of the monopoly granted to the Chinese farmers, does not appear to have encouraged the Government of the Portuguese colony into a further continuance of the sale of prepared opium on its own account. In the Macao *Boletim Oficial* of the 22nd ultimo, a notification appears over the signature of the Colonial Treasurer in which it is announced that the exclusive privilege of preparing and selling prepared opium in Macao will be put up to verbal tender at the Treasury on the 22nd July proximo at two o'clock in the afternoon. The notification contains seven clauses and has appended to it the terms and conditions of the Farm embodied in a series of twenty-nine sections. Both the notification and the Farm's stipulations will bear consideration. In the first place, it should be pointed out that the official notice provides for "the letting of the exclusive privilege in Macao, Taipa and Coloane for a period of five years to the bidder of the highest annual rental during the period referred to." The

first of the conditions conflicts with the proviso quoted above and reads:—"1. The period of the concession will be one of four years to commence from the date of the definite contract." This is not the only conflicting point in the important document appearing in the official publication. Condition 4 stipulates that the present Farm for buying opium and selling prepared opium is restricted to the city of Macao from the Porta do Cerco to Barra and to the villages of Taipa and Coloane. Subsequent conditions 18, 19 and 20 have reference to the exportation of prepared opium: (1) To non-Chinese ports; (2) to Chinese ports; (3) to exportation generally. It would appear from these later provisions that while the Farm is specifically limited in its operations to the Colony of Macao and its dependencies, the conditions for tender provide also for exportation. Clearly an ambiguity exists which should be removed before the date when the tenders become due. Having regard to the fact that the late Opium Farmers' allegations for their inability to pay the full amount of the two months' rental were based on the closure of the markets in Australia and principally in San Francisco—the only two places where prepared opium has hitherto been exported from Macao—it is difficult to reconcile the provision in the draft contract for exportation of prepared opium out of Macao with the intention of the Portuguese Government. Having disposed of the apparent discrepancies in the document under notice, we will proceed to cite the more salient features of the contract. The first of these is the deposit of a sum of \$10,000 by intending tenderers as a *bona fide* of their offer, which deposit money will, as usual, be refunded to unsuccessful bidders and confiscated in the case of the bidder who is awarded the contract refusing to sign the same. The Committee of Adjudication reserve to themselves the right of giving preference under equal circumstances to the holders of the previous rescinded contract, as well as of not granting the monopoly in the event of the price tendered not being considered suitable. As to the question of the maintenance of divans for smoking opium, we find the following provision made in one of the last clauses of the proposed agreement which reads:—"The establishment of houses for the smoking of opium in Macao, Taipa and Coloane without the licence of the concessionaire is prohibited under penalty of confiscation of the opium and implements for smoking found therein and of a fine of \$100; half of the value of the implements and the opium confiscated will be paid into the Treasury and the other half to the Farmer." To control the price of opium sold in retail, a clause is included which restricts the price to a reasonable one according to circumstances and the condition of the market for the drug in Macao. This same clause provides also against the "vexing and oppressing of consumers in any form whatever." To those who contemplate tendering for the Opium Farm in Macao or who are interested in the question either from a moral or an economic point of view, the regulations formulated by the Macao Government are worthy of perusal and close study. They can be seen in their original form in the Portuguese language with an accompanying Chinese translation at the Portuguese Consulate in Hongkong.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

CROWN rent for the first half-year of 1909 is payable at the Treasury on or before the 24th instant.

THE Valuation Lists for the Colony for 1909-1910 will be open to inspection at the Treasury for twenty-one days commencing on Monday, the 7th inst.

THE Colonial Secretary has written to the local Chamber of Commerce advising that the question of the granting of Continuous Certificates of Discharge to Chinese Seamen has been allowed to drop.

INSPECTOR D. Gourlay has been appointed Inspector of Weights and Measures and Inspector of Dangerous Goods, respectively, during the absence on leave of Inspector W. Withers or until further notice, with effect from the 29th May, 1909.

HIS Honour Sir Francis Pigott, Chief Justice, has, by Commissions signed by him, appointed Messrs. G. A. Woodcock, J. R. Wood and A. G. M. Fletcher Commissioners to administer oaths and take declarations, affirmations, and attestations of honour in the Court.

JAPANESE papers report that Baron Takahashi, Vice-Governor of the Bank of Japan, and President of the Specie Bank, has resigned the latter office, and that Mr. Mizumachi, ex-Vice-Minister of Finance, who is now in London as Financial Agent of the Japanese Government, will succeed to the office thus vacated.

A PROCLAMATION appears in the current issue of the *Gazette*, prohibiting for a further period of one year from and including the 28th day of May, 1909, either to be exported from the Colony of Hongkong, or to be carried coastwise within the said Colony, arms, ammunition, gunpowder, and military and naval stores, and any articles which are capable of being converted into or made useful in increasing the quantity of military or naval stores, or any other of such arms, ammunition, gunpowder, stores, goods or articles respectively.

It is not that all boats and vessels are to keep to the northward of the inner line of mooring buoys opposite H. M. Dockyard, Victoria, when the red flag is hoisted on the mast at the north-west extremity of the Dockyard Basin. This will denote that one of H. M. ships is being moved in or out of the basin or dock.

Two battleships of 20,800 tons displacement each are to be shortly placed on the stocks in Japan and will be named the *Kawachi* and *Setsu*. They will be equipped with twelve 12-inch guns, in addition to a number of 6-inch and 4.12-inch auxiliary guns, and protected with armour 12 inches thick. When completed they are expected to be the most powerful battleships afloat.

YUEN HING FUN, a farmer, fifty-three years of age, was arrested on board the steamer *Sai-on* this morning, for being in possession of an empty revolver without a permit from the Police. Yuen was arraigned before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, in the Police Court this forenoon, on a charge of carrying "concealed weapons." His Worship discharged the defendant, but forfeited the revolver.

EVIDENTLY, babies can be used to advantage in addition to being fed and washed, as will be seen from the following announcement in a recent issue of a Vancouver contemporary:—"Wanted—25 babies to use in the production of the 'The Cowpuncher,' at the New Grand Theatre, week April 12th. Services will be paid for. Answer in person, Monday, April 12th, 10 a.m. Stage Grand Theatre."

AT Messrs. Hughes and Hough's this afternoon, a property sale was to have taken place, when residential property known as Rural Building, Lots Nos. 37 and 38, situated at Magazine Gap, with existing buildings thereon known as Smith's Villas. The property was put up at \$1,000, but owing to an absence of bidding the sale had to be withdrawn. Lot 37 contains an area of about 42,000 square feet, while Lot 38 comprises about 44,800 square feet.

A FORTUNE-TELLER, Fu Ying, was victimized, at Yau-ma-tei, yesterday. A client named Kwok Ki called on the necromancer and requested that his prospects be told by the aid of a canary. Fu Ying got to work, and so did Kwok Ki. When the fortune-teller left the room, at 131, Shanghai Street, Yaumatei, to procure the necessary apparatus, Kwok left the building with a box which he believed contained a lot of money, but which in fact only held fifty cents. The fortune-teller soon discovered his loss, and Kwok was arrested an hour later, carrying the lock-fast box under his arm. At the Magistracy, to-day, Kwok was sentenced to three weeks' hard labour and six hours' stocks.

RETURNS of the average amount of banknotes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st May, 1909, as certified by the managers of the respective Banks:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, \$3,276,642	\$2,500,000	
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, 12,356,758	13,000,000	
National Bank of China, Limited, 49,473	nil.	
Total, 15,683,673	15,500,000	

INDIAN LABOUR.

NO OPENING IN HONGKONG.

The following correspondence has been exchanged between the Government and the Chamber of Commerce:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 15th March, 1909.

Sir,—I am directed to inquire whether, in the opinion of your Chamber, any opening exists for the employment of Indian Labour indentured or unindentured in this Colony, and whether they consider that facilities with regard to passage and provision of land should be given to encourage Indian immigration.—I am, etc.,

(Sgd.), F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary,
The Chamber of Commerce.

Chamber of Commerce,
18th March, 1909.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant (No. 1733/1909) inquiring whether, in the opinion of the Chamber, any opening exists in the Colony for Indian labour, indentured or unindentured, and whether it is considered that facilities with regard to passages and provisions of land should be given to encourage Indian immigration.

The above matter is now receiving the attention of my Committee.—I have &c.,

(Sgd.), E. A. M. WILLIAMS,
Secretary.

Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY, C.M.G.,
Colonial Secretary.

Hongkong Chamber of Commerce,
27th April, 1909.

Sir,—I have the honour to reply to your letter (No. 1725/1909) of the 15th March, 1909, requesting an expression of opinion from this Chamber as to whether any opening exists for the employment of Indian Labour in this Colony, and whether facilities with regard to passage and provision of land should be given to encourage Indian immigration.

My committee, having consulted several employers of labour, have been informed that there is no opening for Indian Labour indentured or unindentured. In fact, there are Indians in the Colony at present who cannot find employment.

My committee consider that market requirements are amply met, at present, by the supply of native labour.—I have &c.,

(Sgd.), E. A. M. WILLIAMS,
Secretary.

Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY, C.M.G.,
Colonial Secretary.

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

SEVENTH CONGRESS OF THE EMPIRE.

The following letter with enclosures was laid before the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce at their meeting held on 17th ult.:—

Oxford Court, Cannon Street,
London, E.C., 14th March, 1909.

Dear Sir,—I beg to confirm my circular letter No. 3, dated 3rd November, 1908.

I have still to hear from a large number of Chambers whether or not they intend to be represented at the Congress, though, owing to the length of time necessary for communication between London and Sydney, it is very desirable that not only the names of delegates, but resolutions for the programme, should reach me much earlier than usual. It is as yet impossible to fix upon a definite date, as being the last day upon which nominations and resolutions will be accepted, but, so far as any rate as resolutions are concerned, it is obvious that several months must be allowed in order that Chambers may have the opportunity of considering the various subjects and instructing their delegates in regard to voting. I would therefore urge upon all Chambers the desirability of giving their immediate attention to these matters.

I have pleasure in enclosing herewith the first draft of the official programme, and shall be glad in due course to add any resolutions you may desire placed thereon in your name. A second draft will be circulated as soon as circumstances permit.

As you are no doubt aware, special arrangements have been made with the steamship companies trading to Australia, and I hand you herewith a booklet giving full particulars in this connection. You will notice that the reduced rates are available not only for delegates, but for members of their families travelling with them. Applications for these tickets must be accompanied, in each case, by a letter of identification, signed by the Secretary of the nominating Chamber, and I am sending you, enclosed, forms for the purpose. I have forwarded copies of the booklet direct to all delegates nominated to date.

A draft programme of entertainment to be offered to delegates has been drawn up by the Australian Committee, in accordance with which visits will be paid, subsequent to the Congress proper to the principal cities of the Commonwealth (excepting Perth, West Australia, where it is hoped delegates will be able to call on the outward or homeward journey).

This tour in Australia will probably extend over three weeks, and at its close delegates will be at liberty to make such other visits in the Commonwealth and elsewhere as they may desire. Cordial invitations to delegates have been received from several cities in New Zealand, (Auckland, Canterbury and Dunedin), also from Launceston (Tasmania) and Honolulu (where the Vaccuover-Sydney boat calls), and though it has been found impossible to arrange collective visits to these places, it is hoped that many will be able individually to take advantage of the invitations during the course of their journey. The Organising Committee suggest that, the visit to New Zealand will come more conveniently at the conclusion of the Australian tour.—Yours etc,

(Sgd.) KENNIS B. MURRAY,
Secretary.

FIRE NEAR SHAU-KI-WAN.

TSAT-TZE-MUI VILLAGERS ALARMED.

Tsat-tze-mui village is situated half way between the Belle View Hotel and Shau-ki-wan proper. Shortly before five o'clock yesterday afternoon, a fire broke out in one of the houses in the village, but it was not long before it was subdued. But while the fire lasted the villagers were greatly alarmed, as it was feared that the whole village would be destroyed. The fire started in a one-story building, caused by the overturning of a stove. A bed curtain was set alight, and the flames spread, eating its way up a partition to the wooden roof, which was destroyed. The inmates of the house, who were assisted by friends, fought the flames bravely and had them extinguished, before any further damage was done. It is estimated that the loss would reach nearly \$100.

KOWLOON POINT.

ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW LIGHT.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that, on a date to be subsequently published, a Group Flashing 6th Order Light will be exhibited from Chinatsui Point, Kowloon Peninsula. The light will be *Red* with a *White* sector between S. 81° W. and S. 89° W. and will be exhibited from a red brick tower above the roof of the Signalsman's quarters on the summit of the hill behind the Point, at a height of 141 feet above mean sea level. It will show a group of three flashes of one second duration, at intervals of one second, followed by a period of five seconds' darkness.

On the same date a fixed red automatic light will be exhibited from the buoy marking Cast Rock, situated 41 cables N. 75° E. from the above light.

SANITARY BOARD'S DISINFECTANT.

COST OF JEVES' FLUID.

At the Sanitary Board meeting on Tuesday next, Mr. Shelton Hooper, pursuant to notice, will ask:—

Is it a fact that in February and July, 1908, Jevess' Fluid, to the extent of 2,500 gallons, was purchased through the Crown Agents at a cost, ex godown Hongkong of 3/6 1/2 per gallon? Also whether Jevess' Fluid could not have been purchased locally at 3/1 per gallon, and thereby effecting a saving of between £60 and £70?

In what respect if any did the Jevess' Fluid imported by the Government here differ from that obtainable locally?

FRENCH CUSTOMS TARIFF.

HONGKONG NOT AFFECTED.

The Committee of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, at their meeting on the 17th ult., considered the following correspondence:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
30th April, 1909.

Sir,—I am directed to transmit for the consideration of your committee the enclosed copy of a circular despatch from Lord Crewe dated the 16th day of last March and to inquire whether any commercial interests in this Colony are likely to be adversely affected by the proposed tariff.—I am, &c.,

(Sgd.), F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

16th March, 1909.

Sir,—I have the honour to transmit, for your information, a copy of the proposed new French Customs tariff.

Should there be any commercial interests in the territory under your administration likely to be adversely affected by the proposed tariff, I shall of course be glad to consider whether any representation should be made to the French Government on the particular subject.—I have &c.,

(Sgd.), CREWE.

Hongkong Chamber of Commerce,
6th May, 1909.

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant (No. 263/1909) covering a copy of the proposed new French Customs tariff on which you request an expression of opinion from my committee.—I have &c.,

(Sgd.), E. A. M. WILLIAMS,
Secretary.

Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY, C.M.G.,
Colonial Secretary.

It was decided to reply that the committee did not see that commercial interests in this Colony were likely to be adversely affected by the adoption of the tariff.

A NAGASAKI TRAGEDY.

SAD PICTURE OF JAPANESE DOMESTIC LIFE.

A painful tragedy was brought to light at Nagasaki last week, revealing a phase in Japanese domestic life which is not uncommon. The *Nagasaki Press* reports that a young woman, aged 23, the wife of Mr. Tsuruda, a Nagasaki telephone exchange official, with her two children, one a child of two years and the other an infant, disappeared from her home at Sakurababa, Nagasaki, on the 19th ultimo. She stated before leaving that she intended to visit her parents at Takashima, but at the same time she wrote her parents that she intended to commit suicide, and this intimation was immediately communicated to her husband. A search was instituted and carried on throughout the night with the result that at 8 o'clock on Friday morning one of the party found the woman, in an exhausted condition, in the cemetery on the Karagashiro hill-side. Prosecuting his search further he discovered the bodies of the two children, covered with a cloth and hidden in a neighbouring bamboo thicket. The woman, after being sufficiently revived with restoratives, proceeded to the police station, where she made a statement and was charged with the murder of her children.

According to the unfortunate woman's statement, borne out by a post-mortem examination, she suffocated the children, and intended to kill herself, but was unable to accomplish her end, due to her weak and exhausted condition after wandering about with the children and taking no food.

Much sympathy is felt for the young woman by a large circle who knew her and the public generally, on account of the fact being revealed that her life recently has not been a happy one, and the tragedy is held to be the result of a long period of persistent "squeezing" brought to bear upon her by her mother and a sister-in-law, the silent sacrifice and forbearance causing mental breakdown.

U. S. MONETARY COMMISSION.

PROGRESS OF THE INQUIRY.

The following letter has been received by the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce:—

March 12th, 1909.

Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,—I have returned to Washington six weeks later than I had anticipated and so have only now received your letter of the 10th of December and the report of the Chamber for which I am much obliged.

The evidence taken by the Commission for the next three months will be for the most part banking and currency, the Exchange evidence will occupy next winter and spring. I should not be surprised if there is material of importance from England also. The Chamber of Exchange has under consideration a suggestion to issue "Crown notes" secured by silver (the proposal of the Royal Currency Commission of 1888) with which to pay the weekly old-age pensions. With the silver contents of a shilling worth hardly more than fourpence the profit on the operation is attractive. Here Congress is to be occupied with Tariff Revision, but the state of the Exchange with Asia is much on the minds of the representatives from the Pacific Coast States.

I think if any member of your Chamber should be available next autumn or winter, it might be well to communicate with Mr. T. H. Whitehead of the Bank of India, Australia and China, London. Mr. Whitehead will know where I am.—Believe me, etc.,

(Sgd.) MORRISON FREWER.

A NEW crater has opened on Iwodate, a volcano in Hida province, and ashes have been falling in the adjoining villages during the past few days.

MANUFACTURE OF MATCHES.

USE OF WHITE PHOSPHORUS PROHIBITED.

A meeting of the general committee of the Chamber of Commerce was held on the 17th ult., when the following correspondence was considered:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 13th April, 1909.

Sir,—With reference to your letter of the 24th of March I am directed to point out to you that the particular question which was referred to in the despatch of the Secretary of State of the 21st January last, transmitted in my letter of the 26th of February was whether this Colony should adhere to the International Convention of 26th September, 1906, respecting the prohibition of the use of white phosphorus in the manufacture of matches.

It is on that question that this Government desires to obtain the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce.—I am, &c.,

(Sgd.), F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary,
Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong Chamber of Commerce,
14th April, 1909.

Sir,—I am in receipt of your letter of 13th instant (No. 3699/1907), on the subject of the adherence of this Colony to the International Convention of the 26th September, 1906.

Will you be good enough to again forward me the despatch of the Secretary of State and the memorandum, both accompanying your letter to me of the 26th February, so that my committee may be enabled to express an opinion on that portion of the Convention which has special reference to the prohibition of the use of white phosphorus in the manufacture of matches.—I am, &c.,

(Sgd.), E. A. M. WILLIAMS,
Secretary.

Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY, C.M.G.,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
15th April, 1909.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 14th inst. I am directed to forward herewith the copy of the despatch of the Secretary of State and the memorandum in question. I shall be glad if both documents may be returned to me in due course.—I am, &c.,

(Sgd.), C. CLEMENTI,
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary,
Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong Chamber of Commerce,
27th April, 1909.

Sir,—I am now directed to reply to your letter (No. 3699/1907) of the 14th instant in which the Government desires the opinion of the Chamber as to whether or not this Colony should adhere to the International Convention of the 26th September, 1906, respecting the prohibition of the use of white phosphorus in the manufacture of matches.

My committee consider that, for precisely the same reasons as were advanced by the Representatives of the Imperial Government for the non-adherence of Great Britain on this point, this Colony should not adhere to the Convention.

As pointed out in the memorandum accompanying your letter, it has been proved that the evils traceable to the use of white phosphorus in the manufacture of matches can be successfully suppressed by regulation.

There appears, therefore, no adequate justification for the adoption of measures calculated to hamper trade.

My committee desire, to thank His Excellency the Governor for referring this matter to them.—I have &c.,

(Sgd.), E. A. M. WILLIAMS,
Secretary.

Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY, C.M.G.,
Colonial Secretary.

SEARCHING FOR OPIUM.

WORK OF THE CUSTOMS OFFICIALS IN SYDNEY.

"Diamond cut diamond" is the way a certain wharf officer described the present position as regards the opium trade. He meant to convey that the tussle between the Customs searchers and the Chinese smuggler was now a question of brains. The Customs man has reduced the smugglers' profession to a very fine point, and the latter has to resort to clever dodges to beat the searchers.

Since the beginning of this year the Customs officers at Sydney have made some smart captures. Recently on a steamer the men had cut through some green-baited panelling, and then left the spot practically the same as it was before the cut was made. The trace of interfering was so minute that 90 out of 100 people would have passed it. A searcher, however, observed a gum stain. That was enough, and a big lot of opium was brought to light.

But the duties of these searchers are most difficult. Last April an *Evening News* reporter boarded a steamer at Circular Quay, and observing the door of the ice-room ajar, was curious enough to know what was going on.

The reporter opened the door, and peeped in. There, in that cold chamber, was a man in blue overalls, searching round among ice, surrounded by a mixture of sausage, fish, meat, and other food supplies. The reporter was not allowed in, but just at the moment a Chinese steward, all smiling, came along, and said, "He catches opium. Ah! I no ting."

From the cold regions of the ice chest to the engine-room is a great change, but the searchers pursue their work. Only a day or two ago one of the engine tanks was pumped out, in order to allow the searchers to have a look round.

Since January this year Customs officers at Sydney have seized 2,650 lbs. of opium, the approximate value of which is £7,850.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

PLAGUE OF LOCUSTS.

STRANGE VISITATION IN ANHUI.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Shanghai, 4th June.

Since last month locusts have appeared in large numbers in Anhui, Kung-ning and Kung-wai.

Fortunately, on the 4th inst., there was a heavy downpour of rain during the night which must probably have killed the locusts.

GOVERNOR OF KIANGSU.

SERIOUSLY ILL.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Shanghai, 4th June.

The Governor of Kiangsu (who denounced the Shanghai Taotai) is dangerously ill, and all the attending physicians have given up hopes of his recovery.

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT.

INVESTIGATIONS COMPLETED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 4th June.

The Commissioners, who were sent abroad to study the question of Constitutional Government, have sent in a memorial advising that they have completed their investigations and will shortly return to China.

TAXES ON VEHICLES.

A NEW PROPOSAL.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 4th June.

The Board of Civil Affairs contemplate levying a tax on vehicles, but does not know how to proceed to give effect to the proposal.

Telegrams have accordingly been despatched to Chinese Ministers abroad to ascertain what are the systems adopted in the respective countries to which they are accredited.

FINANCIAL SUPER-INTENDENTS.

OUTWITH CONTROL OF PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 4th June.

The Viceroy of Hupoh has telegraphed to the Ministry of Finance to ascertain whether the Financial Superintendent is to have an office in the Province or not.

The reply received is to the effect that it is not within the province of Viceroys and Governors to interfere in the matter.

RAILWAYS IN ANHUI.

STATUS OF THE PO LUM CO.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 4th June.

The Po Lum Co., which has undertaken to construct railways throughout the Province of Anhui, is in possession of an agreement which is signed in behalf of the Ministry of Posts and Communications.

Viceroy Tuan Fang, however, refuses to recognise the agreement.

This subscription list of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha loan was closed on Saturday, 2nd ult., the result being most successful, the applications with premiums above the lowest issue price of ¥77 in the Kwansai district alone exceeded the issue amount by about a million yen. It is confidently expected by the bankers concerned that when the applications in Tokyo are taken into consideration it will be found that the loan has been over-subscribed twice.

CHINA'S FINANCES.

THE RE-ORGANISATION SCHEME.

The following letter has been addressed by the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce to the Government:

Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, 7th April, 1909.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of 11th February, 1909, (No. 5778/1904), requesting the observations of the Chamber regarding a scheme framed by the Board of Finance for the re-organising of the Finances of the Chinese Empire, I am directed to state that my committee do not feel in a position to criticise exhaustively so large and far-reaching a scheme, but the centralisation of control, which seems to be the essence of the new Regulations, would be an important step forward and greatly assist in the birth of a purer administration.

Needless to say, my committee are entirely sympathetic towards any proposals calculated to confer benefit upon the people of China.—I have &c.,

(Sgd.), E. A. M. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

Hon. Mr. F. H. MAW, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

THE RECENT MURDER.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 4th June.

With reference to the murder of Taotai Lau See-kee, the Governor of Kwangsi has wired to the Canton officials that he will send a deputy to Canton to investigate the case and has also asked them to use their best endeavours in hunting down the assassins.

PLAGUE PREVENTION.

The local authorities have given instructions to forbid military officers, soldiers and military students who are now residing outside the Northern Gate, from visiting the city during the plague season.

FATAL LANDSLIDE.

In consequence of the continuous and heavy rainfall a fortnight ago, a landslide took place in the Lin Ping Prefecture, at Ping Tou village, where nearly two dozen houses were completely or partially ruined and some thirty odd lives lost.

NATIVE INDUSTRIES.

The Canton Self-Government Society has convened a meeting to take place to-day with a view of promoting agricultural pursuits and native industries.

ALLEGED REVOLUTIONISTS.

A weiyuan arrived here yesterday from Kwangsi escorting eight alleged revolutionists who had been arrested in Kwangsi. These men have been handed over to the Viceroy to be dealt with.

DISASTROUS FIRE IN YOKOSUKA.

DAMAGE ESTIMATED AT OVER ¥2,000,000.

On the afternoon of Sunday (23rd ultimo) a disastrous fire broke out in Yokosuka, as a result of which the most prosperous part of the town was devastated, reports the *Japan Chronicle*. The outbreak occurred at a few minutes after 4 o'clock, originating in an oil engine at a rice shop in Hirawaka, Wakamatsu-cho, kept by Miyoshi Roppel. Fanned by a strong wind, the flames spread with a remarkable rapidity towards the sea beach, and en route swept away over a hundred buildings, including the office of the *Gunka Shimbu* and the Haruwaka theatre. The flames then raged with increased fury and by 5 p.m. the main streets of Wakamatsu-cho and Otaki-cho down to the sea had become smoking ruins. The flames, spreading laterally to Ogawa-cho, swept away the Gendarmic Station, the Electric Light Company's office, the Gtaki Post Office, the Kyoei Bank, the Azuma-kwan, the Tokiware, and Kaiyo-ken (the leading hotels), and a number of other buildings. The flames were got under control by six o'clock after strenuous efforts of the police fire brigade, parties of men from the Port Admiralty and the warships in the harbour, and the Yokosuka Heavy Artillery Brigade.

It appears that the scarcity of water is largely responsible for the wide extent of destruction. A destructive fire in the city in December last proved the inadequacy of the water supply in cases of fire, and this year the naval waterworks main was extended into the town for fire hydrants, but the earthquake of last month damaged the main and the water could not be procured, as repairs had not been completed.

In these circumstances the only course available to stop the progress of the flames was to pull down houses. This work, which largely added to the excitement and confusion, was carried out by the soldiers, who worked desperately under the direction of a Major-General in command of the Heavy Artillery Brigade. The men from the battleships *Katori* and *Tango* and the cruiser *Yakumo* are mentioned as rendering signal service. The licensed quarters in Otaki-cho and Wakamatsu-cho were devastated, and fourteen restaurants and tea houses, as well as the whole of the gelsa quarters, were destroyed. In all, more than 800 buildings were burnt down, and the damage is estimated to exceed ¥2,000,000.

The liabilities of the fire insurance offices in this outbreak are estimated as follows:—
Tokyo Fire ¥64,000
Meiji Fire 36,000
Kobe Marine 25,000
Yokohama Fire 16,000
Nippon Fire 10,000
Kyodo Fire 4,000
Happily no loss of life is reported, but the fire is regarded as having struck an almost fatal blow at Yokosuka. The restoration of the city to its former state will take at least three years. The sufferers rendered homeless are being quartered in the City Office, the temple, and other public buildings.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT THE RAILWAY.

POINTSMAN'S TERRIBLE END.

A native pointsman, in the employ of the Kowloon-Canton Railway, at Hunghom, met with a terrible death yesterday. The man had been engaged the whole day working the points for the locomotive, but nothing happened until the afternoon. It would seem that the man was in the act of turning the points, which is done with the assistance of a lever, to allow a train to go by, when he accidentally slipped. The train had drawn near at the time, and in falling the unfortunate pointsman got caught between the locomotive and a truck, which was in tow. The man was dragged some distance before the engine could be stopped, and when he was extricated it was discovered that he was dead. Death was instantaneous. Deceased was about thirty-six years of age.

FERNS AND POT PLANTS.

SITE FOR RAISING.

The following notification appears in the *Gazette*—

Sealed tenders will be received at the Colonial Secretary's Office until noon of Monday, the 21st June, for the letting of a piece of Crown land on east side of Albany Nullah between Kennedy and Macdonnell Roads opposite *Kingsclere*, as shown on plan which can be seen at the Public Works Department, area about 13,900 square feet, for the purpose of raising ferns and pot plants; from the 24th June, 1909, to the 24th June, 1910, subject to the conditions below:—

Each tender should bear on the cover the words "Tender for Permission to occupy Crown Land near *Kingsclere*."

The Government does not bind itself to accept the highest or any tender. Forms of tender and further particulars can be obtained at this Office.

1. The area leased to be that tinted pink on a plan signed by the Director of Public Works and dated 25th May, 1909.

2. The amount of monthly Crown rent to be stated in tender. In the event of any tender being accepted, the amount stated in such tender to be paid monthly in advance into the Treasury.

3. Should the permittee be allowed to remain in occupation of the land after expiry of this permit, the tenancy to become a half-yearly one, subject to cancellation on two months' notice being given at any time.

4. Any structure for the reception of plants to be approved by the Director of Public Works.

5. No person to live on the premises and no matches will be permitted to be erected on the ground.

6. No offensive manure to be used and the place is to be kept in a tidy state.

7. Access to Albany Nullah is not to be interfered with. The permit will be liable to cancellation should any of these conditions be not fulfilled.

KOLANGSU (AMOI) MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at the Board Room, on the 18th May, 1909.

Present:—Messrs. W. H. Wallace (Chairman), W. Kruse, J. Meocanini, S. Okuyama, and the Secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

A letter was read from the Senior Consul forwarding the regulations for the licensing of chairs, &c., as approved by the Consular Body, and the secretary was instructed to have same put in force as soon as possible.

A letter was read from the Senior Consul informing the Council, with reference to the Chinese membership, that he had written to the Taotai with a view to the vacancy being filled.

A cablegram was read from Mr. E. A. Hartley, Calcutta, accepting the appointment of Assistant to the Secretary and Superintendent of Police.

The Captain Superintendent of Police reported that the following cases had been dealt with at the Mixed Court since the last meeting:—
Summons: Throwing night soil water into public drain, 1; Contempt of Court, 2; Using abusive language, 1; Illegally removing boundary stones, 3; Cruelty to children, 1; Breach of contract, 2; Illegally detaining property, 1; Refusing to quit premises, 1; Debt, 1. Summary Arrests: Creating a disturbance, 1; Allowing pigs and cattle to stray, 4; Assault, 4. Attempting to commit suicide, 1; Theft, 2.

(Signed) W. H. WALLACE, Chairman.

By order, C. BERKLEY MITCHELL, Secretary.

FIRE AT MITSU BISHI ENGINE WORKS.

EXTENSIVE DAMAGE.

About 6 a.m. on the morning of Wednesday, the 26th ultimo, fire broke out in the electric engine works at Akumura, Nagasaki, belonging to the Mitsu Bishi shipbuilding yard, reports the *Japan Chronicle*. The building was a three-storied structure of iron framework covered with galvanised iron sheets, 198 ft. long, 64 ft. wide, and 33 ft. high. The operatives, together with about 200 men from a British warship, a party of about 40 men from the German gunboat *Jagor*, and a party of artillery troops, with the city fire brigade, worked strenuously to extinguish the fire, but did not succeed until about two-thirds of the building were destroyed. It is stated that the work done by the British and German sailors was admirable. Some fifty firemen and operatives were slightly injured whilst endeavouring to put out the flames. The cause of the fire is not yet known. The damages are estimated at about ¥70,000.

HONGKONG GYMKHANA CLUB.

THE THIRD MEETING.

The programme of the third meeting to be held at the Happy Valley, on Saturday, 3rd July (weather permitting) is as follows:—

1.—3.30 p.m.—ONE MILE FLAT RACE.—For subscription griffins of season 1908-09. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of one race at this season's gymkhana, or at 1909 meeting, 70 lbs. extra; two or more races 24 lbs. extra. To be ridden by owners. Pony to have been the property of rider for at least one month prior to date of entry. Entrance fee \$5. First prize, presented, 2nd prize, \$25.00, 3rd prize, \$10.00 (Entrance fees to go to winner).

2.—3.50 p.m.—GYMKHANA STAKES.—Value \$100. Distance one mile. For all China ponies. Catch weights at 10.6 lbs. Winners of an open race or open griffin race 5 lbs. extra. Non-winning subscription griffins allowed 5 lbs. Jockeys who have not won more than two official races in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lbs. A cup called the Gymkhana Cup will be presented at the end of the season to be won by the pony scoring most marks in the races for the Gymkhana Stakes at the gymkhana meetings during the season, counting 4 points for a first; 2 for a second; and 1 for a third. The benefit of marks already scored to pass with the pony on a sale. Any winner of the race to carry 5 lbs. extra for each win in subsequent starts for the race, but in the event of a pony carrying the penalty not winning, 2 lbs. to be deducted until he wins again when he will carry the full penalties without deduction. Penalties accumulative up to 15 lbs. Entrance fee \$5, and prize, \$15. (Half entrance fees to go to winner).

3.—4.10 p.m.—THREE QUARTERS OF A MILE HANDICAP.—For all China ponies. Entrance fee \$5. First prize, presented, and prize, \$25.00, 3rd prize, \$10. (Entrance fees to go to winner).

4.—4.30 p.m.—TENT PEGGING IN SECTIONS OF THREE.—Open to teams, mounted on China ponies, and composed of three men, representing any recognized unit or club in the Colony. Three small cups to be presented to the winning team at each competition and at the conclusion of the season a trophy will be given to the team which scores the highest aggregate of points at all meetings included. In competing for the small cups a competitor need not necessarily represent the same unit or club on each and every occasion, but if competing for the aggregate trophy he can only represent one unit or one club during the season, that is to say, he must continue to compete for the unit or club first selected by him and for no other. To provide for sickness, absence from the Colony, or for improvement of a team, new members may from time to time be introduced into a team, but in order to win the aggregate trophy two at least of the members composing the winning team must have competed in not less than three competitions. Points will be awarded as follows:—

3 for each carry, say per team, 9 points
or 2 for a carry under 20 yards,
or 1 for a touch,
3 for speed, 3
3 for style, 3
15

A dropped spear disqualifies the team for the run concerned. Note—Style means the proper and workmanlike handling of spears and the synchronous working of a team. Points will be deducted from a team should the judge observe any member carrying his spear in a dangerous and unsportsmanlike manner. The judges will deduct points if in their opinion a team be moving at too slow a pace. (To avoid delay, each team must be ready to compete when called upon to do so by the starter. Any team not ready will be disqualified. Teams will run in order mentioned on the programme).

5.—5.00 p.m.—HURDLE RACE. ONE AND A QUARTER MILE.—Over not less than eight flights of hurdles. For all China ponies. Catch weights 11 stones, 5 lbs. Jockeys who have not won more than two official races in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin, allowed 5 lbs. 1st prize, presented, 2nd prize, \$15, 3rd prize, \$10. (Entrance fees to go to winner).

6.—5.20 p.m.—ONE AND A QUARTER MILE FLAT RACE.—HANDICAP.—For all China ponies. Entrance fee \$5. First prize, presented by the Hongkong Gymkhana Club, 2nd prize, \$25, 3rd prize, \$10. (Entrance fees to go to winner).

SHIPPING AND MAILS.

MAILS DUE.

French (*Touman*) 7th inst.

Indian (*Dumanka*) 9th inst.

English (*Dumanka*) 9th inst, 9 a.m.

The s.s. *Rubi* left Manila on 5th inst., and is due here on 7th inst., at 6 p.m.

The C. P. R. Co.'s s.s. *Montague* arrived at Vancouver at 7 a.m., on 3rd inst.

The C. N. Co.'s s.s. *Yingchow* left Shanghai on 3rd inst., and is due here on 6th inst.

The E. & A. Co.'s s.s. *Eastland* left Sydney to-day, via Queensland Ports, Port Darwin, and Manila.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Kumano Maru*, Australian Line, left Manila for this port on 5th inst., and is expected here on 7th inst., a.m.

The C. P. R. Co.'s s.s. *Empress of China* left Vancouver a.m., on 3rd inst., for Hongkong via the usual Ports of Call.

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s s.s. *Dumanka* left Singapore for this port on 4th inst., at 6 p.m., with the outward English Mails, and is due here on 9th inst., at 9 a.m.

To-day's Advertisement.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED, ON

WEDNESDAY,

the 9th June, 1909, at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Room, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, corner of Ice House Street, SUNDRY VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,

Comprising:—
SILK TAPESTRY COVERED DRAWING ROOM SUITE, TEAKWOOD SIDEBOARDS AND DINNER WAGON with BEVELLED GLASS, TEAKWOOD EXTENSION DINING TABLE and CHAIRS, TEAKWOOD WARDROBES with BEVELLED GLASS, MARBLE TOP WASHSTANDS and DRESSING TABLES with BEVELLED GLASS, BRASS and IRON BEDSTEEPS with WIRE and RATTAN MATTRESSES, GLASS, CROCKERY and E.P. WARE, TIENTSIN CARPETS and RUGS, PICTURES, IRON SAFE, &c., &c.;

Also
One COTTAGE PIANO and PIANOLA, One OLD VIOLIN and One SEMI-GRAND PIANO.

Catalogues will be issued. TERMS—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 5th June, 1909. [467]

COMMERCIAL.

WEEKLY SHARE LIST.

Messrs. Erich Georg & Co. write in their Weekly Share List of to-day's date as follows:—
A comparatively fair business has been done in some of the leading stocks during the week under review, but rates show hardly any change of importance. The sterling demand rate of exchange on London closes at 11.97 1/2, while the rates on Shanghai are 11.74 1/2 for a Bank T/T, and 11.74 1/2 for a three days' sight Private Bill. Bar silver in London is quoted 24 1/2, and Consols 84 5/16, ex interest. The Bank of England's rate of discount remains 2 1/2 per cent., while the private market rate of discount has gone up to 1 1/2 per cent.

Bank Shares.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been sold at \$98 1/2 and \$99, closing with buyers at the lower, and sellers at the higher rate; Shanghai quotes sales at \$100 ex 7 1/2; the London rate went up to 2.94, but the latest quotation is 2.94. Nationals are unchanged.

Marine Insurance Shares.—Nothing has transpired in stocks under this head, and quotations are the same as given last, with the exception of Yangtze, which are down to \$12 1/2 (the equivalent of the Shanghai rate of \$17 1/2, ex 7 1/2).

Fire Insurance Shares.—A few Hongkong, old and new shares are wanted at \$145. Chinese continue in demand at \$110.

Shipping Shares.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamships Club, hands at \$32 to \$33, and are wanted at Indo-Chinese, in sympathy with a Shanghai quotation of 11.50 buyers, are in request at \$74; the London rates are unchanged. China and Manila, as well as Douglas shares, are unchanged. Star Ferries sold at \$26 for old, and are quiet at \$15 for new shares, ex the dividend of 10 per cent. paid on 3rd instant. Shell Transport have inquiries at 60s, for Bearer scrip; the London rate is 61s, sellers for Name shares. Union Waterboats can be placed at \$10 1/2.

Refineries.—China Sugars have weakened and are on offer at \$12 1/2. Luzons are unchanged. Mining Shares.—Charbonnages continue in demand at \$55, but no shares seem to be available. Raubs sold at \$91, \$91 and \$91, and have buyers at \$91. Chinese Engineering and Mining Company's shares are up to 11.18 sales and buyers; the total output of the Company's three mines for the week ended 15th ultimo, amounted to 32,030 tons of coal, and the sales during that period to 27,787 tons.

Docks, Wharves, Godowns, &c.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been done at \$67 1/2, and more shares are obtainable. Geo. Fenwick are unchanged. New Amoy Dock shares are quoted \$9 ex the dividend of 30 cents per share, paid on 1st inst. Shanghai Docks are quiet at 11.85. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have changed hands in rather large lots at \$59, and buyers at that rate rule the market. Shanghai and Hongkong Wharves have dropped in the north to sales at 11.16, with further buyers.

Land, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Lands changed owners at \$108 to \$110, and there are further buyers at latter rate. Kowloon Lands sold at \$30 and \$30 1/2, and are wanted at \$30. West Points have been fixed at \$46. Old Hotels are on offer at \$21, while the new issue has changed hands at \$40. Humphreys' Estates have sales and buyers at \$9 1/2. Shanghai Lands are quoted 11.20.

Cotton Mills.—All Shanghai stocks are weaker. Quotations are: Ewoe 11.20, Internationals 11.85, Laou Kung Mow 11.10, and Sooychees 11.30. Hongkong Cottons are quiet with probable sellers at \$8 1/2.

Sundry Manufacturing Companies.—China Light and Powers sold in fairly large quantities again at \$7 1/2 to \$7, closing with sellers at \$7 1/2; a rumour is current that there is a slight hitch in the negotiations for the sale of the Company's Canton property. Hongkong Electric sold and are wanted at \$19. Dairy Farms sold at \$16 1/2 and \$16 1/2, and have buyers at latter rate. Very fair quantities of Green Island Cement shares fetched \$4.80 to \$5, and the demand continues. Ropes sold at \$15. Other stocks under this heading are unchanged, and without any reported transactions.

Miscellaneous.—China Borneos have been done at \$13 1/2 and \$13 1/2, and are wanted at \$13 1/2. China Providents sold at \$9 1/2 and \$9 1/2, and have further buyers at \$9 1/2. Peak Tramways changed hands at \$13.20 for old, and \$14 for new shares, both ex the dividend of 8 per cent. paid on 29th ultimo; the old issue continues in demand. Langkats have, improved to 11.21, buyers. Watkins are in request at \$3 1/2. Wilsons sold at \$8.70 ex the dividend of 30 cents per share paid on 29th ultimo. Wm. Powells are on offer at \$4. In other stocks under this heading no sales have been reported, and quotations are the same as given last.

Intimations.

THE DAIRY FARM COMPANY, LIMITED.

EXTRA CHOICE SUGAR CURED

BACON and HAM.

VERY MILD

HONEYSUCKLE BRAND.

Only 60 cents a lb.

Hongkong, 4th June, 1909. [180]

THE CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE CO., LD.

(CAPITAL PAID UP \$1,250,000)

Loans on Mortgage of House Property, &c. Goods received on Storage. Advances made on Merchandise. Loans made on the Provident System. (Rates and Particulars on application);

THE OFFICE OF TRUSTEE, EXECUTOR OF WILLS, ATTORNEY, &c., Undertaken and Executed. SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., General Managers. Hongkong, 16th March, 1908. [181]

To Let.

TO LET.

GODOWN, No. 9, DUDDELL STREET.

Apply—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD. Hongkong, 3rd June, 1909. [462]

TO LET.

KING'S BUILDINGS, OFFICES facing the Harbour from about October, at present in occupation of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.

Apply—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD. Hongkong, 3rd June, 1909. [463]

TO LET.

ROOMS suitable for Office in No. 10, 108 HOUSE STREET, in rear of David Sassoon & Co.'s premises. Apply to—
DAVID SASSOON & CO., LD. Hongkong, 13th May, 1909. [464]

TO LET.

NOS. 51, 53, & 55, WONG-NEI-CHUNG ROAD.

Apply to—
HONGKONG & KOWLOON LAND & LOAN CO., LTD. No. 8, Queen's Road West. Hongkong, 9th March, 1909. [465]

TO LET.

GODOWN No. 54, DUDDELL STREET.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD. Hongkong, 1st June, 1909. [466]

TO LET.

Shipping—Steamers.

CANADIAN PACIFIC
RAILWAY CO.'S

Royal Mail Steamship Line.

"EMPRESS LINE."

Between China, Japan and Europe via Canada and the United States, calling at Hongkong, Shanghai, Nagasaki (through the Inland Sea of Japan) Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria, and Vancouver B.C.

The only Line that maintains a Regular Schedule Service of
12 DAYS HONGKONG TO VANCOUVER. 21 DAYS HONGKONG TO VANCOUVER.
SAVING 5 TO 7 DAYS' OCEAN TRAVEL.

Proposed Sailings from Hongkong and Quebec.

(Subject to alteration).

Connecting with Royal Mail Atlantic Steamers.

From Hongkong,	From Quebec.
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN"	ALLAN LINE
SATURDAY, JUNE 12TH.	FRIDAY, JULY 9TH.
"EMPRESS OF CHINA"	"EMPRESS OF IRELAND"
SATURDAY, JULY 3RD.	FRIDAY, JULY 30TH.
"MONTEAGLE"	

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14TH.	ALLAN LINE
"EMPRESS OF INDIA"	FRIDAY, AUG. 10TH.
SATURDAY, JULY 24TH.	

"Empress" Steamers will depart from Hongkong at 6 p.m.
"Monteagle"

Each Trans-Pacific "Empress" connects at Vancouver with a Special Mail Express Train and at Quebec with Atlantic Mail Steamer as shown above. The "Empress of Britain" and "Empress of Ireland" are magnificent vessels of 14,500 tons, Speed 20 Knots, and are regarded as second to none on the Atlantic.

Passengers booked to all the principal points in Canada, the United States and Europe, also Around the World.

HONGKONG TO LONDON, 1st Class, via Canadian Atlantic Port or New York (including Meals and Berth in Sleeping Car while crossing the American Continent by Canadian Pacific direct Line)

Passengers for Europe have the option of going forward by any Trans-Atlantic Line either from Canadian Ports or from New York or Boston.

SPECIAL THROUGH RATES (First Class only) are granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services of China and Japan Governments.

Through Passengers are allowed Stop over privileges at the various points of interest en route.

R.M.S. "MONTEAGLE" carries only "One Class" of Saloon Passengers (termed Intermediate) the accommodation and commissariat being excellent in every way.

HONGKONG TO LONDON. Intermediate on Steamers and 1st Class on Canadian and American Railways.

Via Canadian Atlantic Port

Via New York

For further information, Maps, Guide Books, Rates of Passage and Freight, apply to—
W. GRADDOCK, General Traffic Agent,
Corner Pedder Street and Praya (opposite Blake Pier).

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

Steamship On

SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE	FOOKSANG	MONDAY, 7th June, Noon.
SHANGHAI	YATSHING	TUESDAY, 8th June, Noon.
SHANGHAI	HANGSANG	WEDNESDAY, 9th June, Noon.
TIENSIN VIA WEIHAWEI & CHEFOO	CHIPSANG	WEDNESDAY, 9th June, Noon.
SHANGHAI	WINGSANG	FRIDAY, 11th June, Noon.
MANILA	LOONGSANG	FRIDAY, 11th June, 4 P.M.
SINGAPORE, PENANG & CALUTTA	XUANGSANG	TUESDAY, 15th June, Noon.
SANDAKAN	MAUSANG	WEDNESDAY, 16th June, Noon.
MANILA	YUENSANG	FRIDAY, 18th June, 4 P.M.

RETURN TO LONDON (OCCUPYING 24 DAYS).
The steamers "Yatshing" and "Fooksang" leave about every 3 weeks for Shanghai and Yokohama returning via Kobe (Inland Sea) and Moji to Hongkong, providing a stay of 5 to 6 days in Japan if passengers leave the steamer at Yokohama and rejoin at Kobe.

These vessels have all modern improvements and are fitted throughout with Electric Light. A fully qualified surgeon is also carried.

* Steamers have superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Yangtze Ports, Shanghai, Tientsin & Newchwang.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Kuantan, Lahad, Dato, Singapore, Tawau, Jesselton, and Labuan.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE MATHESON & CO., LD.,
General Managers.

Telephone No. 61.
Hongkong, 5th June, 1909.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

STEAMERS.	To Sail.
SHANGHAI	"LINAN"
HONGKONG	"SINGAN"
AMOI, MANILA, CEBU & ILOILO	"YUNGKIANG"
MANILA	"TRAN"
SHANGHAI	"YINGHOW"
SHANGHAI	"ORAN"
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA and USUAL	"TAMING"
SHANGHAI	"ORANGHA"
SHANGHAI	"CHINHUA"
SHANGHAI	"LINAN"

Reduced Saloon Fares, single and return, to Manila and Australian Ports.
DIRECT SAILING TO WEST RIVER, TWICE WEEKLY.

S.S. "LINAN" and S.S. "SANDU".

AUSTRALIAN STEAMERS have superior accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in State-rooms. A fully qualified Doctor is carried. REDUCED FARES. Cargo booked through for all Australian, New Zealand and Tasmanian Ports.

MANILA TWIN-SCREW STEAMERS and TIENSIN STEAMERS have superior accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in State-rooms and Dining Saloons.

SHANGHAI LINE.
FAST SCHEDULE TWIN-SCREW STEAMERS (Anhui, Cheong, Linan, Chinkun), with excellent passenger accommodation, Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the State-rooms and Dining Saloon, leave Hongkong for Shanghai direct every Thursday and Sunday, taking cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.

N.B.—These steamers land passengers in Shanghai avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Woosung.

Fares including wines:—\$45 single, \$80 return.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
AGENTS.

Telephone No. 16.
Hongkong, 5th June, 1909.

HONGKONG—MANILA.

Highest Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers between Hongkong and Manila.—Saloon amidships—Electric Light—Parquet Cabin—Surgeon and Stewards carried.—All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of Passengers.

CHINA AND MANILA
STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

Steamship.	Tons.	Captain.	For	Sailing Dates.
ROBI	2540	R. W. Almond	MANILA	SATURDAY, 12th June, at Noon.
ZAFIRO	2540	R. Rodger	"	SATURDAY, 19th June, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
SHEWAN TOMES & CO.,
GENERAL MANAGERS.

Telephone No. 5th June, 1909.

Shipping—Steamers.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE.

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE FOR

CALLAO, IQUIQUE, VALPARAISO, Etc., via MOJI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, HONOLULU, MANZANILLO and SALINA CRUZ (Mexico).

S.S. MANSHU MARU	5,000 tons gross	Sail 21st July, 1909, at Noon.
S.S. AMERICA MARU	5,000 "	30th Aug., 1909, at Noon.
S.S. HONGKONG MARU	5,000 "	26th Oct., 1909, at Noon.
S.S. MANSHU MARU	5,000 "	10th Dec., 1909, at Noon.

For particulars, apply to

K. MATSUDA,

Manager.

TOYO KISEN KAISHA, Yokohama Building.

Hongkong, 4th May, 1909.

OSAKA SHOSHEN KAISHA.

INAUGURATION OF NEW
TRANS-PACIFIC LINE.

Regular Service, Connecting at TACOMA with

THE CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE AND PUGET SOUND RAILWAY

AND

THE CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE AND ST. PAUL RAILWAY.

(The only direct train service, without transshipment, also shortest and fastest route, from the Pacific Coast to CHICAGO.) Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Overland Common Points in the United States of America and Canada, also to the Principal Ports in Mexico, Central and South America.

Proposed Sailings from Hongkong for TACOMA via SHANGHAI and JAPAN, (Intermediate Ports of Call:

Regular—SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA.

Occasional—MANILA, KEELUNG, YOKKAICHI, SHIMIDZU, SEATTLE and VICTORIA, (B.C.)

(Subject to Alteration)

Newly Built Steamers	Tons (gross reg.)	Captain	Sailing Date.
"TACOMA MARU"	6,178		On Saturday, 3rd July.
"SEATTLE MARU"	(already launched)	4 other new sister ships to follow.	

The steamers have fair speed. Special up to date appliances for cargo working; and best adapted rooms for carrying Silk, Treasure and Parcels. Special attention given towards Express connection. Superior accommodation for passengers. Superior AMIDSHIP, and a limited number of Cabin passengers carried at low rates. Electric lighted and Steam heated.

For further information, apply at the Co.'s Local Branch Office at Second Floor, No. 1 Queen's Buildings.

Hongkong, 1st June, 1909.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.
(THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.)

PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

DESTINATIONS.	STEAMERS.	SAILING DATES, 1909
MARSEILLES, LONDON AND ANTWERP via SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO AND PORT SAID	WAKASA MARU, Capt. N. Nielsen, Tons 6500	WEDNESDAY, 9th June, at Daylight.
	SADO MARU, Capt. Geo. Anderson, Tons 6500	WEDNESDAY, 23rd June, at Daylight.
VICTORIA, B.C. & SEATTLE via KEELUNG, SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, SHIMIDZU and YOKOHAMA	TOSA MARU, Capt. T. Harrison, Tons 6000	TUESDAY, 8th June, at 4 p.m.
	SHINANO MARU, Capt. K. Kikawa, Tons 6500	TUESDAY, 22nd June, at 4 p.m.
SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE via MANILA, THURSDAY ISLAND, TOWNSVILLE AND BRISBANE	NIKKO MARU, Capt. M. Yagi, Tons 6000	FRIDAY, 11th June, at Noon.
	KUMANO MARU, Capt. N. Mathieson, Tons 6000	FRIDAY, 9th July, at Noon.
BOMBAY, via SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO	YEBOSHI MARU, Capt. B. Kon, Tons 4500	THURSDAY, 17th June, at Noon.
SHANGHAI, MOJI AND KOBE	YETOROFU MARU, Capt. K. Soyeda, Tons 4500	SUNDAY, 20th June, at Noon.
KOBE AND YOKOHAMA	SANUKI MARU, Capt. K. Homma, Tons 6500	FRIDAY, 11th June, at 5 p.m.
NAGASAKI, MOJI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	MISHIMA MARU, Capt. A. E. Moses, Tons 9000	FRIDAY, 18th June, at Noon.

* Omitting Shanghai.
† Cargo only.
§ Fitted with new System of wireless telegraphy.

EXTRA PASSENGER SERVICE NEW STEAMERS—
EUROPEAN LINE.

FOR GENOA, MARSEILLES, LONDON AND ANTWERP, via SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, SUEZ AND PORT SAID.

The Company's Newly Built 9,000-Tons Passenger Steamers will be despatched from Hongkong as follows:—

Hirano Maru	(Capt. H. FRASER)	About Wednesday, 30th June.
Kamo Maru	(Capt. F. L. SOMMER)	About Wednesday, 28th July.
Mishima Maru	(Capt. A. E. MOSES)	About Wednesday, 25th August.
Atsuta Maru	(Capt. W. THOMPSON)	About Wednesday, 22nd September.

CHEAPEST PASSAGE RATES TO EUROPE AND AROUND THE WORLD.

CHEAPEST ROUND TRIPS
BETWEEN

HONGKONG and JAPAN PORTS.

COMMENCING 1st JUNE, ENDING 31st AUGUST, 1909.

Special Excursion Tickets (1st & 2nd class) available for 4 months.

YOKOHAMA RETURN.	KOBE RETURN.	MOJI RETURN.	NAGASAKI RETURN.
1st Class, \$150	\$110	\$100	\$90
2nd " " \$80	\$70	\$60	\$50

For further particulars, apply to
T. KUSUMOTO, Manager.

Shipping—Steamers.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL
STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM

FOR

STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, ADEEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.

(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL AMERICA and SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship
"DELHI."

Captain G. W. Gordon, R.N.R., carrying His Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this office for BOMBAY, &c., on SATURDAY, the 12th June, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports in connection with the Company's S.S. "Mediterranean," 10,000 tons, from Colombo, Passengers' accommodation in which vessel is secured before departing from Hongkong.

Silk and Valuable, all Cargo for France, and Tea for London (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Colombo into the Mail steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London, other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed via Bombay by the R.M.S. "Perla," due in London on 15th July, 1909.

Parcels will be received at this Office until 4 P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required.

For further Particulars, apply to
N. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent

Hongkong, 29th May, 1909.

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS, LIMITED.

FOR SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Steamship
"SEGURA."

Captain Hayde, will be despatched as above on or about 6th prox.

The attention of passengers is drawn to the excellent accommodation provided by this vessel. She is fitted throughout with Electric Light and carries a Doctor and Stewardess.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 25th May, 1909.

HONGKONG—BOSTON—NEW YORK.

AMERICAN-ASIATIC STEAMSHIP
COMPANY.

FOR BOSTON AND NEW YORK VIA PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL.

(With Liberty to Call at the Malabar Coast.)

S.S. "INDRANI"

On 16th June, 1909.

S.S. "ST. PATRICK"

On 13th July, 1909

For Freight and further information, apply to—
SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Agents.

Hongkong, 2nd June, 1909.

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE
TO NEW YORK,

VIA PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL,
(With Liberty to Call at Malabar Coast.)

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

FOR NEW YORK:
S.S. "PATHAN"

About 22nd June.

For Freight and further information, apply to—
DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,
Agents.

Hongkong, 17th May, 1909.

THE BANK LINE, LIMITED.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Overland Common Points in the United States of America and Canada, and also for the principal ports in Mexico, Central and South America.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG FOR

VICTORIA, B.C., SEATTLE & TACOMA, via

MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

Steamer	Tons.	Captain.	Sailing Date
Oceanic	4,657	F. W. Davies	1st July 1909
Kamuro	4,657	J. Mathieson	20th July
Aymara	4,657	J. Boyd	26th Aug.

These steamers are specially fitted for the carriage of Asiatic Steamer passengers.

PARCEL EXPRESS TO THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

For further information, apply to
DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,
General Agents.

Queen's Buildings,
Hongkong, 20th May, 1909.

Shipping—Steamers.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Company's Steamship

"TOURANE."

Captain Latican, will be despatched for the above Ports on or about MONDAY, the 7th inst.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
P. DE CHAMPMORIN,
Agent.

Hongkong, 1st June, 1909.

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Rangoon, Madras and Mauritius.

THE Steamship
"CATHERINE APCAR."

Captain G. F. Hudson, will be despatched for the above Ports, on THURSDAY, the 10th inst., at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DAVID SASSOON & CO., LIMITED,
Agents.

Hongkong, 4th June, 1909.

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS, LIMITED.

FOR MARSEILLES, LONDON AND ANTWERP.

THE Steamship
"DENBIGHSHIRE"

Captain W. Barrett, will be despatched as above on or about 12th June.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LD.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 27th May, 1909.

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.
(Calling at Timor, Port Darwin and Queensland Ports, and taking through Cargo to Adelaide, New Zealand, Tasmania, &c.)

THE Steamship
"EMPIRE."

Captain Helms, will be despatched as above on WEDNESDAY, the 23rd June, at Noon.

This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions, Ice, &c., throughout the voyage.

The Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric Light.

A Stewardess and a fully qualified Surgeon are carried.

N.B.—To assure the additional comfort of passengers the steamers of the Company have electric fans fitted in state-rooms.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 4th June, 1909.

CHARGEURS REUNIS.
(FRENCH STEAMSHIP COMPANY).

REGULAR FREIGHT SERVICE TO

SAN FRANCISCO, MEXICO, PERU, CHILE, RIVER PLATE, BRAZIL.

The steamers of the CHARGEURS REUNIS Co. proceed from YOKOHAMA DIRECT to SAN FRANCISCO without any call en route thus affording a fast regular cargo-boat service from China and Japan to San Francisco.

THE Steamship
"AMIRAL FOURICHON"

will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO and other above destinations on or about the 20th July, 1909.

For further particulars apply to
MESSAGERIES MARITIMES,
Agents at Hongkong.

Hongkong, 28th May, 1909.

STEAM TO CANTON.

THE New Twin Screw Steel Steamers

"KWONG TONG"

Capt. H. W. WATKINS

"KWONG SAI"

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. KADONK & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	PAID UP.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT		LAST DIVIDEND.	APPROXIMATE RETURN AT PRESENT QUOTATION BASED ON LAST YEAR'S DIV.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
				RESERVE.	AT WORKING ACCOUNT.			
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	180,000	\$125	\$125	{ \$1,500,000 \$14,500,000 \$16,000,000	\$2,006,234	{ Final of £2 and bonus of 5/- for 1908 @ ex 1/8 = \$16.024	51 1/2	{ \$98 1/2 buyers London 2/9
National Bank of China, Limited	99,925	£7	£6	{ £4,000 \$150,000	\$10,223	\$2 (London 3/6) for 1903	...	\$5 1/2
MARINE INSURANCES.								
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$50	{ \$1,500,000 \$232,757 \$421,990 \$185,000	none	\$14 for 1907	7 1/2	\$195 sellers
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	{ Tls. 250,000 Tls. 205,747 Tls. 118,377 \$5,000,000	Tls. 160,512	Interim of 7/6 for 1908	5 1/2	Tls. 104 buyers
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	12,400	\$250	\$100	{ \$1,000,000 \$195,948 \$105,249 \$681,800	\$2,404,911	{ Final of \$17 making \$47 for 1907 and interim of \$30 for 1908	5 1/2	\$845
Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited	12,000	\$100	\$60	{ \$1,000,000 \$274,415 \$199,164 \$1,000,000	\$707,637	\$12 and bonus \$3 for 1907	7 1/2	\$225 buyers
FIRE INSURANCES.								
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$20	{ \$1,000,000 \$438,663 \$12,803	\$375,341	\$6 and bonus \$2 for 1907	7 1/2	\$110 buyers
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	{ \$1,000,000 \$1,428,173	\$568,711	\$27 for 1907	8	\$345 buyers
SHIPPING.								
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	30,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$7,000 \$264,638 \$99,067 \$150,000	\$1,035	\$1 for 1906	...	\$11 sellers
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$264,638 \$99,067 \$150,000	Nil.	2 1/2 for year ending 30.6.1908	7	\$36 sellers
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.	80,000	\$15	\$15	{ \$607,500 \$79,433 \$35,344	\$20,279	Final of 1 1/2 making \$2 1/2 for 1908	7 1/2	\$32 1/2 buyers
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (Preferred) ..	50,000	£5	£5	{ \$10,000 \$10,000	£15,755	{ 6/- for 1907 on Preference shares only @ ex 1/9 11/16 = \$3.154	4	\$74 buyers
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (Deferred) ..	50,000	£5	£5	{ \$10,000 \$10,000	£15,755	Final of Tls. 1 1/2 making Tls. 3 1/2 for 1908	{ 7 1/2 7	{ Tls. 53 1/2 buyers Tls. 53 sales
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 75,000 Tls. 75,000	Tls. 14,510	Second interim of 1/- for a/c 1908	...	60/- buyers
"Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited	2,000,000	£1	£1	{ £1,000,000 £1,000,000	£68,817	{ \$1.00 for year ending 10.4.1909 \$3.50	{ 4 1/2 3 1/2	{ \$26 ex div. \$15 1/2 ex div.
* Star Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$5	{ Tls. 98,000 Tls. 48,479 Tls. 44,100 Tls. 81,000 Tls. 7,000	\$3,121	Final of Tls. 1 1/2 making Tls. 2 1/2 for 1908	11	Tls. 45 sales
Taku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 48,479 Tls. 44,100 Tls. 81,000 Tls. 7,000	Tls. 2,215	Final of Tls. 1 1/2 making Tls. 2 1/2 for 1908	11	Tls. 45 sales
REFINERIES.								
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	{ \$50,000 \$56,848	Dr. \$5,858	\$5 for year ending 31.12.08	3 1/2	\$142 1/2
Luton Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	\$100	\$100	{ none	Dr. \$135,833	\$3 for 1897	...	\$15 sellers
Perak Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 100,000	Tls. 9,173	Tls. 3 1/2 for year ending 31.8.08	...	Tls. 290 buyers
MINING.								
China Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.	1,000,000	£1	£1	{ £175,000 £12,289	£11,556	{ Interim of 1/5 (coupon No. 12) for year ending 29.2.09	7	Tls. 18 1/2 buyers
Rio de Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited ..	150,000	£1	18/10	{ £12,289 £4,873	Dr. £2,191	No. 12 of 1/- = 48 cents	...	\$9 1/2
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Fenwick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$42,000	Dr. \$7,421	\$1.75 for year ending 31.12.06	...	\$12
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$3,000,000 \$26,806 \$40,000	\$20,102	Final of \$1 1/2 making \$3 1/2 for 1907	...	\$59 sa. and b.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.	50,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$2,500,000 \$97,191 \$100,000	\$87,078	Final of \$4 making \$8 for 1908	11 1/2	\$67 1/2
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.	55,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 1,000,000 Tls. 697,357 Tls. 50,000 Tls. 115,000	Tls. 22,742	{ Interim of Tls. 2 1/2 for 6 months ending 31st October, 1908	6	Tls. 85 sales
Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Company, Limited ..	36,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 697,357 Tls. 50,000 Tls. 115,000	Tls. 22,818	Final of Tls. 6 making Tls. 10 for 1908	6	Tls. 160 buyers
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.								
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.	25,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 2,500,000	Dr. Tls. 4,134	Tls. 6 for year ending 20.2.09	5 1/2	Tls. 104 buyers
Astor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai) ..	20,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$500,000	Dr. 4,230	\$2 1/2 for year ending 30.6.07	...	\$10
Central Stores, Limited	50,123	\$25	\$25	{ \$1,250,000 \$648,075 \$13,912	\$24,611	\$1.20 on old and 60 cents on first new issue ..	...	\$19 buyers
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	8,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$400,000 \$648,075 \$13,912	\$893	Final of \$3 making \$6 for 1908	...	\$71 ex n.f.
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.	5,000	\$100	\$100	{ \$500,000	\$16,475	Final of \$3 1/2 making \$7 for 1908	6 1/2	\$40 sa. new \$110 buyers
Humphreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited	150,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$1,500,000 \$41,173 \$41,851	\$5,486	60 cents for 1908	6 1/2	\$9 1/2 buyers
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	\$50	\$50	{ none	\$278	\$1 1/2 for 1908	5	\$30 buyers
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	75,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 3,750,000 Tls. 3,750,000	Tls. 142,404	{ Final of Tls. 3 and bonus of Tls. 2 making Tls. 5 for 1908	6 1/2	Tls. 120
West Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	\$50	\$50	{ none	\$1,968	Final of \$2 making \$4 for 1908	8 1/2	\$46 sales
COTTON MILLS.								
Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 750,000 Tls. 45,939 \$20,000	Tls. 8,880	Tls. 5 for year ended 31.10.1908	4 1/2	Tls. 120 buyers
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving & Dyeing Company, Limited	15,000	\$10	\$10	{ Tls. 45,939 \$20,000	\$9,553	50 cents for year ending 31.7.08	6	\$8 1/2 sales
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	{ Tls. 750,000	Tls. 8,372	Tls. 6 for year ending 30.9.06 (8%)	...	Tls. 86
Leong-kung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ none	Tls. 4,829	Tls. 4 for 1908	...	Tls. 105
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	1,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 500	{ Tls. 500,000	Tls. 15,911	Tls. 50 for 1906	...	Tls. 400 sellers
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	12 1/2	12 1/2	{ \$1,063,000 \$10,000	\$648	1/10 per share for 1907 = 1.037	10 1/2	\$100
China-Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$600,000	Nil.	\$1.20 or 1908	9	\$13 1/2 buyers
China Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	{ none	\$51,138	50 cents for year ended 28.2.06	8 1/2	\$7
China Do. Do. special shares	50,000	\$10	\$10	{ none	\$51,138	80 cents for 1908	8 1/2	\$9 1/2 buyers
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ltd.	125,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$1,250,000 \$10,000	\$5,407	\$1.50 for year ending 31.7.08	7 1/2	\$16 1/2 buyers
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	40,000	\$7 1/2	\$6	{ \$300,000 \$8,000	\$48	Final of 50 cents making 90 cents for 1908 ..	10 1/2	\$9 buyers
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	400,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$4,000,000	\$3,756	75 cents for 9 months ending 31.12.07	8	\$12
H. Price & Company, Limited	12,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$120,000	\$251	\$2 for year ending 29.2.09	9 1/2	\$21 buyers
Hall & Holt, Limited	21,000	\$20	\$20	{ \$420,000	\$8,957	\$1 and bonus 20 cts. for year ending 29.2.09 ..	6 1/2	\$19 buyers
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	\$10	\$10	{ none	\$5,195	Final of \$15 per share making \$19 for 1908 ..	12 1/2	\$155 sellers
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$150,000	\$7,616	Final of \$1 per share making \$2 for 1908	8 1/2	\$24
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	60,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$600,000	\$8,790	1st Quarterly div. of Tls. 1 1/2 for account 1909	4	Tls. 1,140 sa.
Maatschappij tot Mijning, Bosch en Landbouw op plantages in Langkat, Limited	25,000	Ga. 100	Ga. 100	{ Tls. 2,500,000 Tls. 68,914	Tls. 116,682	80 cents on fully paid shares and 8 cents on \$1 paid shares for year ending 30.4.09	6 1/2	{ \$13.20 ex div. \$3 1/2 ex div.
Peak Tramways Company, Limited	25,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$250,000	\$2,204	None	...	Tls. 112 1/2 b.
Philippine Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	{ none	\$2,540	Final of Tls. 4 making Tls. 7 1/2 for 1907	6 1/2	Tls. 121 sellers
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited	75,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 3,750,000	Tls. 5,450	Final Tls. 5 making Tls. 8 for 1908	4 1/2	Tls. 415 buyers
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 20	Tls. 20	{ Tls. 600,000 Tls. 24,820 Tls. 75,000	Tls. 5,450	Final of 3/- making 45/- for 1908	...	Tls. 415 buyers
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	16,350	£20	£20	{ Tls. 327,000	Tls. 23,038	None	...	\$24
South China Morning Post, Limited	6,000	\$25	\$25	{ none	Dr. \$56,602	40 cents for year ending 31.5.08	8	\$5
Beach Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	\$5	\$5	{ none	\$156	Tls. 6 1/2 for year ending 30.4.07	...	Tls. 64 buyers
Tientsin Waterworks Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 200,000	Tls. 201	80 cents for year ending 31.12.08	5 1/2	\$103 buyers
Union Waterboat Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$100,000	\$172	80 cents on 9,900 ord. shares and \$10.80 on 100 Founders shares for yr. and 31.5.07	6 1/2	\$13 buyers
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$100,000 \$15,000	\$2,613	Final of 30 cents for 1908	6 1/2	\$8.70 ex div.
Walson, (A. S.) & Co., Limited	60,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$600,000 \$15,000	\$2,613	Final of 30 cts. making 80 cts. for the year ended 30th June, 1906	...	\$4 sales
William Powell, Limited	15,000	\$7	\$7	{ none	\$3.95			

* These shares are entitled to half of the profits.

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Hongkong, 10th March, 1909. 111
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